MONDAY MARCH 11, 2013 www.saipantribune.com

Volume XXIII, Issue No. 49

POLL RESULTS

Do you support the request for a fiveyear extension of the transition period for the CW1 program for foreign workers?

Yes	45
No	90
Undecided	3
No opinion	4
0 1 11 140	0040
Sunday, March 10	. 2013

INSIDE

NATION



Survey says many are conflicted on the government's spending cuts.

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linked to Filipino intruders in Bor-**➤ PAGE 16**

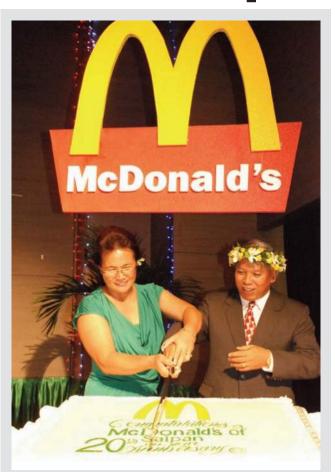
LIFE & STYLE



It's been a rough week for Justin Bieber. **➤ PAGE 19**

CNMI has new associate justice, public defender. PAGE 4 PH consulate in Guam to hold outreach on Saipan. PAGE 5

Loss of ARRA funding seen to \$10M hotel worsen sequestration impact



20 YEARS OF LOVIN' IT

CLARISSA V. DAVID Joe and Marcia Ayuyu cut the cake Saturday night during Mc-Donald's Saipan's 20th Anniversary Appreciation Banquet at the Royal Taga Ballroom of Saipan World Resort. What began on March 18, 1993, as one man's dream has evolved to become one of the longest standing businesses in the CNMI. Saturday's event also served as a venue for McDonald's Saipan to recognize its vendors and suppliers, which have been vital in the company's two-decade success.

See story and more photos on Pages 13 and 14

he CNMI will not only lose millions in federal funds because of "sequestration"—a series of automatic, across-the-board funding cuts to U.S. government agencies totaling \$1.2 trillion over 10 years—but will also see the end this year of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act program that has awarded more than \$119 million to the islands since 2009, officials said.

Of the over \$119 million ARRA grants awarded since 2009, the CNMI has yet to draw down or spend \$17 million of them. If the CNMI fails to use the money and complete its projects, it could end up losing millions of dollars some seven

>> Hopwood, San

See ARRA on Page 4

breaks ground

>>> Korean firm plans up to \$70M investments in CNMI

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com REPORTER

PDI Capital Group Korea held a groundbreaking ceremony Friday on its \$10-million project to complete the construction of a long-abandoned, castle-shaped hotel across the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, bringing renewed optimism among government officials, the private sector, and foreign investors about the CNMI's pathway to economic recovery.

The seven-story Forest Hill Hotel with a rooftop pool, however, is just one of the many projects that PDI Capital Group Korea hopes to invest in on the islands.

See HOTEL on Page 4

MBA's Tam wins silver in Guam spelling bee

By MONETH G. DEPOSA

moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com REPORTER

An 8th grader from Marianas Baptist Academy came home

victorious from the 41st Annual Scripps Spelling

Bee held in Guam over the weekend after being named the second best speller in the

Nesanne Mae Tam won the silver medal during Saturday's ceremony in Guam after finishing second to the competition's champion, 8th grader Veron-

ica Chua of St. John's School in **Vicente students** Guam.

Winning third make it to Top 10 in the contest

was Adrian Charles Tambora of Wettengel Elementary School, also in Guam.

The contest was held on

March 9 at the Sheraton Guam Resort

According to Lynnette Villagomez, CNMI Public School System coordinator, two other students from the Commonwealth successfully made it to Top 10: Hopwood Junior High School's Ezekiel Joshua Rafanan who lasted until the seventh round and finished eighth, and San Vicente Elementary School's fourth grader Holly

See BEE on Page 4

MCS Knights rule mock trial anew

By MONETH G. DEPOSA

moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com REPORTER

Mount Carmel School proved unbeatable once more after successfully defending its championship in the prestigious CNMI High School Mock Trial competition that ended Friday.

Aside from winning back-to-back, it was also the Knights' fifth overall title in the 15-year competition.

Mount Carmel was the competition's first champion in 1999 and it bagged the same honors in 2008, 2010, and 2012.

See MCS on Page 4



Mount Carmel School Knights pose for a group photo with their teacher and attorney coaches Galvin Deleon Guerrero and Joseph Leon Guerrero after receiving the championship award during Friday night's awarding ceremonies. The Knights ruled once again the CNMI High School Mock Trial Competition and earned the slot to represent the Commonwealth at the nationals.

2 MONDAY, MARCH 11, 2013 SAIPAN TRIBUNE



Pau Pau Beach gets some TLC from modeling contestants

By CLARISSA V. DAVID clarissa_david@saipantribune.com REPORTER

Saipan offers plenty of scenic natural attractions that fascinate both residents and travelers. As a destination, the island abounds in miles and miles of beautiful white-sand beaches that make it the perfect beach getaway.

One of Saipan's most popular beaches is the Pau Pau Beach in San Roque Village on the west side of the island. With several pavilions and trees lining the area, Pau Pau Beach appeals to picnickers while its rich aquatic resources and secluded swimming holes make it an excellent snorkeling and swimming location.

Pau Pau Beach, which is framed by huge rocks to the north, was recently spruced up by a group of aspiring models vying for the title of Marianas Next Top Model, now running on its third year.

Event organizer Sharmaine Casquero said Division of Environmental Quality's Joe Kaipat, Fran Castro, and Olivia Tebuteb Tenorio, along with Beautify CNMI and Marianas Islands Aspiring models wing for the title of Marianas Next Top Model pose with the bags of trash they collected at the Pau Pau Beach in San Roque Village.

CLARISA V. DAVID

Nature Alliance, led the 20 contestants who took part in the two-hour beach cleanup last March 2.

Casquero said the beach cleanup is only among the sev-

eral activities lined up to raise awareness of the importance of caring for the environment and its significant role in promoting the island's tourism industry. She said Pau Pau Beach was selected for the cleanup because of the amount of trash that have accumulated in the area. Besides the beach cleanup, the Marianas

Next Top Model contenders are also scheduled to participate in an upcoming tree planting initiative.

According to Casquero, in-

stilling the value of environmental stewardship among the youth is vital to the success and sustainability of the CNMI's number one industry.

PATA: 2012 was a record year for Asia-Pacific tourism



BANG-KOK, Thailand

(PATA)—Asia and the Pacific continued as a hot spot for international tourism in 2012, attracting what is expected to be in excess of 350 million international visitor arrivals, expanding its collective inbound count by

more than 5 percent and generating more than 18 million additional foreign visits, year-on-year. This is according to preliminary results released Friday by the Pacific Asia Travel Association, or PATA.

This is the third consecutive year in which foreign arrivals growth has remained positive for the region.

Of the 40 separate destinations covered, only five reported contractions for the year. Most of those were relatively marginal for the region as a whole. The only exception was China, which, with a contraction in growth of 2.2 percent, is estimated to have lost around

3 million international arrivals (foreign and compatriot) from its 2011 total international inbound count.

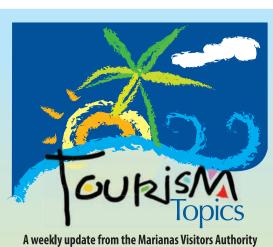
The picture is quite different for foreign arrivals to China, however (i.e., excluding compatriot arrivals). The year 2012 saw an increase of 1.6 percent in that inbound volume, year-on-year.

Southeast Asia was the strongest performer in 2012 in annual

percentage growth terms, with a gain of 9.9 percent for the year. This equated to an increase of more than 8 million additional arrivals over the previous year and pushed the ASEAN aggregate international inbound count to almost 89 million.

Within this sub-region, Myanmar had a staggering increase of almost 52 percent in arrivals, while Cambodia and Lao PDR

reported gains of 24 percent and 22 percent respectively. All three destinations created new records, with Myanmar breaking the million arrivals mark (in total) for the first time. Cambodia and Lao PDR both also broke the 3 million mark. They were not alone either as every destination within the ASEAN region set new highs in terms of international arrivals.



Tourism is everybody's business.

Winter Season "Go to Marianas" Promotion

during the winter months, this month the Marianas Visitors Authority (MVA) continues its "Go to Marianas with a Charter Flight!" promotion that was launched in January 2013.

The promotion aims to increase awareness of Saipan tour packages, especially charter flight packages. Participating travel agents are carrying the promotion as a main banner on their websites, and newspaper advertising has also been made.

The promotion also includes 400 complimentary suitcases, Marianas Guidebooks and maps for consumers. The participating travel agents are Hana Tour, Mode Tour, Lotte Tour, Onnuri Tour, Online Tour, Tour 2000, VG Tour, Redcap Tour, and KRT.

As of the latest available stats through January 2013, over 46,000 Koreans have visited **Saipan**, **Tinian**, and **Rota**, an increase of six percent over the same period last year.



SAIPAN TRIBUNE MONDAY, MARCH 11, 2013 **3**

Local

Hotel Riviera owner found liable to Inos keeps DPS, Corrections, WIA heads ex-gov Tenorio for breaching lease

Joseph N. Camacho has found the owner of the defunct Hotel Riviera Saipan liable for breaching two land leases with former governor Pedro P. Tenorio and his wife Sophia Tenorio.

Camacho, however, ruled that the amount of damages owed by Chang Shin Resort Saipan Corp. to the Tenorios cannot be ascertained with certainty at this time.

The judge also determined that the Tenorios failed to show that Chang Shin Resort was trespassing as the court has yet to determine whether the leases have been terminated.

Camacho granted a summary judgment in favor of the Tenorio's for breach of contract based on unpaid rent and contract damages for unpaid rent and applicable late fees.

The judge dismissed Chang Shin Resort's counterclaims against the Tenorios.

According to court records, the Tenorios and PRC, through counsel Daniel Stafford, filed a lawsuit in July 2012 against Chang Shin Resort for allegedly failing to pay lease of their land located in the hotel's premises. They asked the court to order the defendant to pay them at

Superior Court Associate Judge least \$64,330 in actual damages plus double rent for any applicable holdover periods.

> The lawsuit concerns a dispute over three ground leases covering four parcels of land upon which Hotel Riviera sits in Fina Sisu, Saipan.

> The hotel, through counsel Jennifer Dockter, filed several counterclaims. PRC and the Tenorios then filed a motion for summary judgment.

> In his order issued on Friday, Camacho said he has yet to determine whether the leases have been terminated, therefore any damage to plaintiffs' respective reversionary interests is speculative. (Ferdie de la Torre)

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com

Gov. Eloy S. Inos and Lt. Gov. Jude U. Hofschneider are keeping Department of Public Safety Commissioner James Deleon Guerrero, Corrections Commissioner Ray Mafnas, and Workforce Investment Agency director Edith Deleon Guerrero.

The three are staying on after the governor and lieutenant governor declined accepting their courtesy resignations last week.

The governor confirmed Friday that he declined the courtesy resignations of the WIA and DPS heads, while press secretary Angel Demapan confirmed yesterday that Mafnas' courtesy resignation was also not accepted.

Inos, at the same time, said Friday that he is "revisiting"

the courtesy resignation of Commonwealth Ports Authority board of directors chair Joe Lifoifoi, over the involvement

of top CPA ports police officers along with DPS officers in allegedly shielding former attorney general and now fugitive Edward T. Buckingham from being served a penal summons in August 2012.

CPA ports police officers'

Lifoifoi's term and no one was sanctioned as a result of any internal investigation.

Sen. Frank Cruz (R-Tinian),

tion revisited

over issue of

CPA 'escorts'

Buckingham's

chairman of the >>> Lifoifoi resigna-Senate Committee on Executive Appointments and Government Investigations, yet to submit an

> internal investigation that his panel had been asking for since August 2012.

Lifoifoi turned in his courtesy resignation to the new governor but Inos did not accept it.

However, with the arrest last week of CPA ports police chief

ROYAL CROWN INSURANCE

involvement happened during Jordon Kosam, CPA Capt. Juan Rebuenog, and former governor Benigno R. Fitial's driver and Police Capt. Jermaine Nekaifes as a result of an investigation by the Office of the Public Auditor on the Buckingham "escort" matter, Inos is taking a second look at the CPA board chair's courtesy resignation.

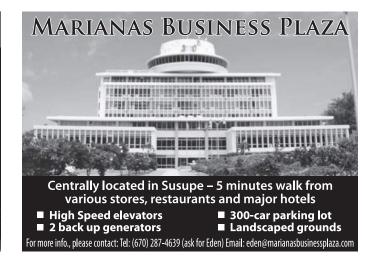
> "I'd like to revisit the whole said CPA has resignation issue and maybe that should be clarified as well. My understanding is that an internal investigation was done and nothing was found to be... no issues were of concern," the governor said Friday.

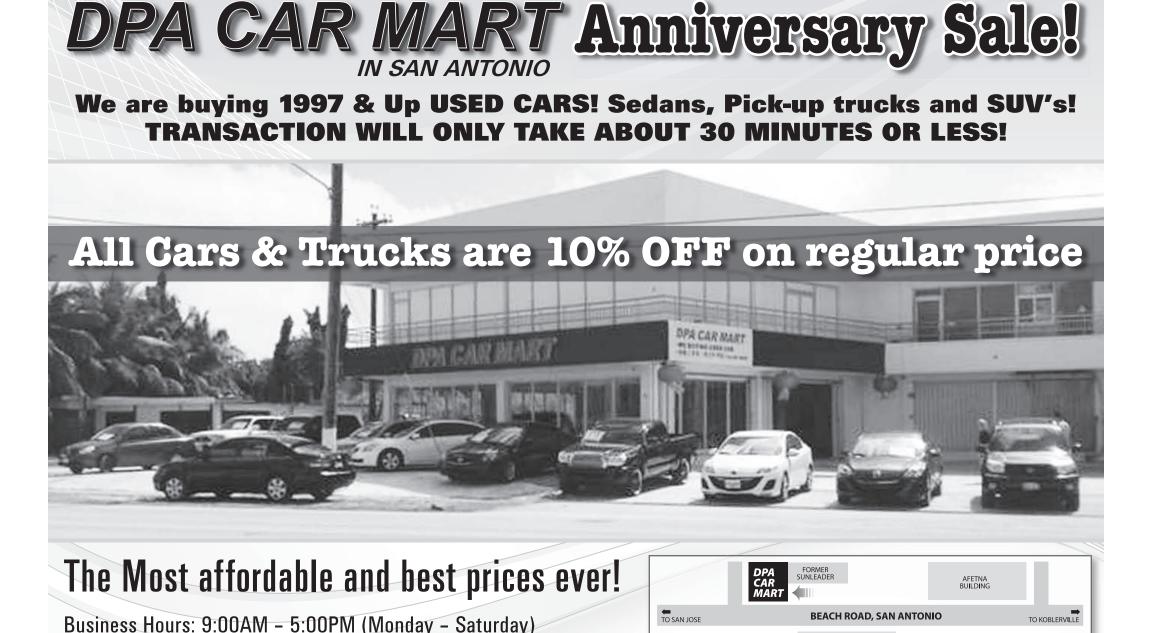
> > Inos said the arrests were the result of OPA's independent investigation.



Located in San Antonio, formerly Sun Leader Super Market, across from Royal Crown Insurance.







CNMI has new associate justice, public defender

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com

Gov. Eloy S. Inos swore in the latest member of the CNMI Supreme Court, Associate Justice Perry B. Inos, within an hour after the Senate confirmed his nomination Friday morning. Senators also confirmed the nomination of Douglas Hartig as the CNMI's Public Defender.

Senators confirmed Inos and Hartig by a vote of 8-0 each.

That was a day after the Senate Committee on Executive Appointments and Government Investigations held a public hearing on their nominations by former governor Benigno R. Fitial.

Hartig is a former assistant public defender and Inos is a former Superior Court associate judge.

"I am happy about this. Finally the waiting is over," Inos told reporters shortly after he took his oath of office in the governor's conference room little past 12pm Friday.

Inos now joins Chief Justice Alexandro Castro and Associate Justice John Manglona.

The newly sworn in associate justice is a nephew of the new governor.

In January 2010, the then associate judge administered the oath of office for his uncle, who became an elected

lieutenant governor in November 2009. During Friday's ceremony, the nephew said he and his uncle are now "even,"

drawing laughs from the crowd.

Present at the swearing-in were members of the Judiciary, Inos's family, friends and other government officials.

The new Supreme Court associate justice's ascension has left a vacancy in the Superior Court.

The governor, in a separate interview, said that vacancy will be filled. He, however, said that he will consult with Presiding Judge Robert Naraja to ask about workload and backlog, and whether the vacancy needs to be filled "right away."

Gov. Eloy S. Inos, left, administers the oath of office to the latest member of the CNMI Supreme Court, Associate Justice Perry B. Inos, center, during a brief ceremony on Friday, within an hour after the Senate confirmed the nominations of both Inos and Public Defender Douglas Hartig on Capital Hill. Also in photo are the new associate justice's wife, Debra, holding the Bible, their children and other family members.



HOTEL

From Page 1

PDI Capital Group Korea board chair Sung Jin Lee and chief executive officer Daniel Chang said overall investment plans in the CNMI range anywhere from \$50 million to \$70 million.

However, for some, there is "guarded" optimism because other foreign investors have also done groundbreaking ceremonies and presented ambitious plans to build hotels and casino resorts on Saipan, Tinian and Rota—only for those plans to fizzle out months or years later.

Nevertheless, PDI Capital Group Korea's Lee, Chang, Gov. Eloy S. Inos and other CNMI officials separately said the completion of Forest Hill Hotel's construction will help answer the need to have more rooms in the CNMI where tourism arrivals have been picking up and hotel occupancy rates are seeing record highs in years.

The first phase of the two-phased Forest Hill project includes the completion of the hotel with over 70 rooms, a rooftop swimming pool, a spa, restaurants, a coffee shop, a function room and boutique shops. The second phase includes construction of luxury villas.

The hotel sits on 48,000 square meters of private land with a great view of Saipan's Lagoon, the island of Tinian, Mount Tapochau, and acres of greenery. It is also the nearest hotel to the international airport.

Inos said this will be "quite an improvement," considering that the unfinished construction has become an eyesore for years.

"Hopefully this will be the start of many investments to come," Inos later told reporters.

Just like other CNMI government officials and private businesses, Inos hopes that this hotel development will come to fruition.

PDI Capital Group's CEO, Chang, said they will be the financer and manager of the project.

Chang, through translators, said they worked for two years to get the previous owners of the structure to sell the property to PDI Capital Group. The deal was closed late last year.

He said construction is expected to begin in three months and completion date is targeted to be around June 2014.

Chang said he first visited Saipan 11 years ago and noticed no substantive change throughout these years. He said he hopes that their plans for the CNMI will be as successful as their endeavors in Korea, China, Vietnam, Canada, Belize, and South Africa, among other destinations.

Visiting Korean investors and tourists joined PDI Capital Group officials and CNMI dignitaries at the groundbreaking ceremony on Friday. Besides the CNMI governor, the others present were Lt. Gov. Jude U. Hofschneider, Cabinet members, Senate and House members, and Marianas Visitors Authority officials.

MCS' newest member, 14-year-old Cathryn Javier, won the best prosecuting attorney award. Javier is a member of the other MCS team.

"This is really a great surprise and I didn't expect it because I just joined our school's mock trial team a month ago! It's a great feeling!" shared Javier after the awarding rites at Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan Friday night.

Hailed best defense witness is Kadi Camacho, a freshman from Marianas High School. He vowed to participate again in the mock trial competition

Another student from MHS, Aurora David, was hailed the competition's best defense attorney.

MHS entered two teams in the con-

tion between both public and private schools throughout the CNMI. It was started in 1999 by the CNMI Bar Association and former justice Ramon Villagomez as a way to introduce high school students to the justice system. This year, six schools joined the com-

ERRATUM

In the article "Hospital acquires new dishwasher; unit now operational" that was published Friday, March 8, 2013, the local vendor through whom the machine was ordered from was One Call Inc., not Wan Koo. Also, the manufacturing of the machine, the delivery, and the installation totaled just shy of \$60,000; the machine did not cost over \$60,000. Our apologies.

BEE

From Page 1

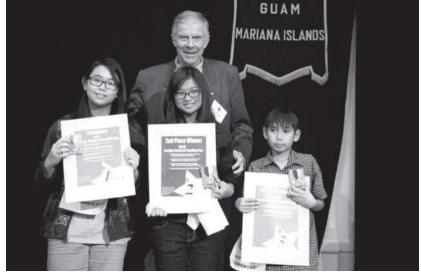
Sara Liban, who lasted until the 15th round and placed fourth.

Hopwood principal Jonas Barcinas yesterday said they are very proud of Rafanan and other CNMI students who all did well in the competition. Rafanan was the CNMI-wide spelling bee champion this year.

Other PSS students who joined the

weekend competition are Genzo Gonzales, who lasted until the second round; Samantha Sandbergen who remained in the competition through the fourth round; Jacob T. Teregeyo, who lasted until the third round; Putra Sani through the fifth round; and Michelle D. Bermudes, who lasted until the fourth round.

It was a nerve-wracking competition for the 61 elementary and middle school participants, who represented schools from Guam, the Northern Marianas, Palau, and Pohnpei.



The winners of the recently concluded 41st Annual Scripps Spelling Bee competition gather for a group photo after Saturday's competition in Guam. They are, from left, first placer Veronica Chua from St. John's School; second top speller Nesanne Mae Tam of Marianas Baptist Academy; and third placer Adrian Charles Tambora of Wettengel Elementary School.

ARRA

From Page 1

months before the federal government starts reclaiming unused ARRA funds.

Gov. Eloy S. Inos said Friday that the end of the ARRA program will worsen the negative impact of federal funding cuts brought by sequestration.

Latest quarterly data from federal tracking website, recovery.gov, updated on Jan. 30, 2013, shows that the CNMI was awarded over \$119.847 million in ARRA grants from 2009 through Dec. 31, 2012.

The \$119 million-plus ARRA funding is more than the CNMI's fiscal year 2013 budget of \$114 million.

ARRA funds helped the CNMI fund its education programs, created and saved jobs, built and maintained schools, improved health programs, funded energy and road projects, among others. The Public School System, for example, got over \$36 million in ARRA money and was able to retain and hire dozens of classroom teachers. With ARRA funding source drying up and sequestration kicking in, PSS is asking for a bigger appropriation from the CNMI central government for fiscal year 2014.

Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) said the sequestration cuts funding to federal agencies that the CNMI has relied on for many of its programs and jobs.

For the CNMI, the cuts will be in the millions of dollars, although the Inos administration continues to assess the total impact.

Press secretary Angel Demapan said yesterday that the Office of Grants Management is now overseeing the remaining activities of the ARRA program.

"However, management of such ARRA grants are being handled by the respective grantees of each grant program. The Office of Grants Management is currently in the process of compiling status reports from each grantee for review by the governor and lieutenant governor," Demapan said.

The CNMI government used to have a sole-source ARRA management contract with former Commerce secretary Mike Ada's Integrated Professional

Of the over \$119 million in ARRA grants to the CNMI, more than \$101 million or 90 percent has been used or drawn down.

However, when it comes to project completion rate, the CNMI has yet to complete 25 or 40 percent of 58 total projects.

Of 58 ARRA projects, 33 or 60 percent have already been completed; 13 or 20 percent are more than 50 percent completed; nine or 20 percent are less than 50 percent completed, and three or 10 percent have not even started as

ARRA money was a major factor in the CNMI's economic growth in 2010 alone, based on U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis data on gross domestic product that showed a 2.3-percent increase. It was in 2010 when ARRA really hit the ground, Sablan said.

The Obama administration's ARRA program was meant to jumpstart the economy, and create and save jobs. But the Inos administration is hoping that the negative impact of the end of ARRA money flowing to the CNMI and sequestration will be cushioned by spending cuts and full tourism recovery along with new investments on the islands.

MCS

From Page 1

This latest win means the group will once again represent the Common-

wealth at the nationals in Indianapolis in May this year. The team's teacher-coach, MCS president Galvin Deleon Guerrero.

said that what's more rewarding is to see the members performing their best after almost a full year of practice and preparation. The school entered two teams this year.

"They are focused and disciplined," Deleon Guerrero said. "[That's why] in this court, Knights rule!"

Attorney-coach Joseph Leon Guerrero helped mentor both MCS teams.

The members of the champion team include Victor Cabrera, Victoria Camacho, Lance Deleon Guerrero, Amalina Evangelista, Maria Fe Lazaro, Andrea Manese, Jimin Rvu, and Anastasia Schweiger.

This year marks Cabrera's second time in the national mock trial after participating last year. He shared with Saipan Tribune that in all the years he has been part of the MCS mock trial team, there's always one thing they've kept in mind: "Win or lose...it's all worth it! Just do your best!"

Camacho, for her part, said that being a member of the mock trial team takes commitment. "It feels amazing because this is one of the hardest things I ever worked on. It takes so much commitment and the fact that we won against all these talented teams...it's astounding!" she told Saipan Tribune.

This year marked Camacho's first time in the high school mock trial team and the first time to travel to the national event. "I've seen the competitions (in videos) and it looks so intimidating...but I know I have a great team, we just need to work hard because our goal is to be the best in the national!"

Hailed second best team is Marianas Baptist Academy, which also bagged this year's Supreme Court Professionalism Award. One of its members, Alina Ishikawas, was also hailed the competition's best prosecution witness.

Dr. Rita Hocog Inos High School was named the second runner-up team.

First-timers bag individual

awards

test this year.

Mock trial is a scholastic competipetition.

Federal team turns in 'hospital sustainability plan'

By MONETH G. DEPOSA

moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com REPORTER

Gov. Eloy S. Inos and Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. CEO Juan N. Babauta received Friday morning a comprehensive report from the departing members of the Commissioned Corps Hospital Assistance Team, which included over 200 operational recommendations for quality practice and sustainability for the public hospital.

The team's officer in charge,

Rear Adm. Chris A. Bina, told the two officials that the sustainability plan has multiple recommendations that altogether, if adopted, will ensure that CHCC is placed and stays on a path of quality and sustainable operations.

He said the team established "aggressive yet achievable timelines" that hospital leadership should enforce for the best interest of those being served by the hospital. The recommendations' timeframe starts March 2013 through December 2014

and include both short- and long-term objectives.

Among the areas that need immediate action is the hiring of a laboratory manager and a Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services compliance officer to ensure continued compliance with Medicare standards. The team recommends using Commissioned Corps officers for both posts, being the most cost-effective option available.

According to Bina, many of the plan's recommendations focus on CHC governance, finance, and resource allocation. He said the ability of the hospital management team to make daily decisions serves as a lynchpin for the corporation's success.

"The current reality of multiple layers of decision-makers prevents hospital management from efficiently responding to the short-term and strategic issues that are necessary for quality and sustainable operations. Confusion in this area is exacerbated by a lack of clarity regarding the role of the advisory board," states the report.

Bina said the board should focus on high-level leadership issues such as long-term capital improvement plans, developing a vision for the health care system including Tinian and Rota clinics, and planning for the long-term financial sustainability of the corporation. The daily operations of the hospital should be left to hospital leadership, he added.

According to the report, CHCC's financial situation worsened due to the CNMI government's lack of Medicaid payments to the hospital and to off-island providers caring for Medicaid eligible patients.

"When the CNMI does not pay for care received by its Medicaid patients at other healthcare facilities in the U.S., they can no longer refer CNMI Medicaid patients to those systems. This results in either CNMI being forced to pay inflated, open market cost of healthcare at foreign facilities, or CHCC is forced to treat these patients," states

the report

It was also pointed out that the Tinian and Rota clinics can be self-sustaining assets if the corporation will develop a strategy to provide fully integrated continuum of care across the entire CHCC health system.

There's a need also to fill the key leadership posts such as CFO, senior legal counsel, revenue cycle administrator, COO executive assistant/public information officer, and the need to create a procurement office.

Bina described the plan they offered to CHCC as a "starting point," intended to be adapted to the evolving goals of the healthcare system overseen by CHCC and the needs of its patients.

PH consulate in Guam to hold consular outreach on Saipan

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa david@saipantribune.com

REPORTER

The Philippine Consulate General in Agana is coming to Saipan to hold its first ever mobile consular outreach on March 23 to 26, more than four months since the closure of the Saipan Consulate General.

While the venue has yet to be finalized, Consul Edgar Tomas "Gary" Auxilian said yesterday that the Guam consulate is looking at holding the services at the Mount Carmel Cathedral Joeten-Daidai Social Hall in Susupe.

Auxilian disclosed that the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center and the Marianas Business Plaza are not available on the dates when the team will be here.

The Guam consulate earlier shared a February "indicative" schedule for its initial mobile consular services.

Auxilian explained that the delay was due to the re-calibration of the e-Passport equipment previously issued to and used by the Saipan consulate. The equipment, he said, had to be shipped to Manila where actual adjustment and resetting was done, before it was transported back to Saipan.

"Immediately after we got the equipment, we identified a schedule to conduct the mobile consular outreach, making it in time for our target schedule, which is the first quarter of 2013," he told *Saipan Tribune* in a phone interview.

Vice Consul Pat Cortes will head four consular staff and they will be aided by United Filipino Organization. Auxilian will not be able to join the team, saying, "I will be staying on Guam during that time to attend to other matters."

Among the consular services to be provided during the Guam Consulate's visit are passport renewal and application, civil registry, and notarial services.

With only one passport equipment to be used and given the Guam Consulate's limited time on Saipan, Auxilian urged those who will avail the mobile consular services to submit their information and have it encoded ahead of time, thereby reducing

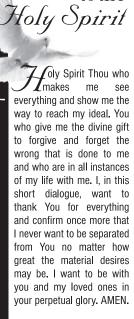
processing and waiting time at the mobile consular outreach.

Auxilian said that those who will send the necessary information in advance will be given a schedule when they can make an appearance between March 23 and 26.

The requirements and fees for the various consular services have been posted on the Guam Consulate's Facebook page (Agana Pcg) and their website, www.philippinesguam.org. The office can also be reached through the IT&E-provided hotline number, 682-2222.

Auxilian said the Guam Consulate is looking at coming back to Saipan in June, hopefully in time for the Philippine Independence Day celebration. The schedule for the Tinian and Rota mobile consular services will be announced soon.





Say this prayer for three days without mentioning the favor you are asking for. After the third day, the wish will be granted no matter how difficult it may be. Promise to publish this prayer as soon as your favor has been granted.









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CNMI pays tribute to women



Lt. Gov. Jude U. Hofschneider and members of the CNMI Women's Association, chaired by Sen. Jovita Taimanao (Ind-Rota), seated second from right, have their picture taken Friday afternoon on Capital Hill after a proclamation declaring March 8 CNMI Women's Day and March 2013 CNMI Women's Month.

Gov. Eloy S. Inos and Lt. Gov. Jude U. Hofschneider signed a proclamation Friday declaring March 8 CNMI Women's Day and March 2013 CNMI Women's Month, joining many parts of the world in paying tribute to women and reflect on the progress and achievements made to advance women's equality.

Hofschneider signed the proclamation in the presence of members of the CNMI Women's Association chaired by Sen. Jovita Taimanao (Ind-Rota), Sen. Frank Q. Cruz (R-Tinian), and other supporters on Friday afternoon on Capital Hill, while Inos signed the proclamation in advance to attend to another meeting around the same time.

Taimanao, during the ceremony, said the CNMI Women's Association plans to host a women's forum and hold a membership drive this month. As of Friday, they have yet to set a specific date and location.

In their joint proclamation, Inos and Hofschneider said women of the CNMI "have made historic contributions to the growth and strength of the Northern Mariana Islands in countless recorded and unrecorded ways," and have provided the majority of volunteer labor force on the islands.

They also said that women of the CNMI were particularly important in the establishment of early charitable, philanthropic, and cultural institutions, and continue to serve the nation at the highest level of government and armed forces.

"International Women's Day is a chance to pay tribute to ordinary women throughout the world and reflect on the progress and achievements made to advance women's equality, celebrate the gains made by women in our society and reflect on the challenges and barriers that women continue to face," they added. (Haidee V. Eugenio)

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Exclusively for Ford vehicles only. See advisors for more details.







Contest seeks photos of Laolao Bay

Today marks the launch of the natural beauty or historical rich-Our Laolao Photo Contest, which honors the one-year anniversary of the Our Laolao-Litter Free on Land and Sea campaign. To celebrate, community members are asked to share personal photos of Laolao Bay, whether from the past or from today, that highlights what Laolao Bay means to you. Submitted entries can run the gamut, from capturing the bay's

ness to highlighting quality time with friends and family.

To enter, contestants need to "Like" the Our Laoalao Facebook page: https://www. facebook.com/OurLaolao, post a picture, and invite friends to vote for their image. The contest is accepting photo submissions from now through April 19. The photo with the most votes will win a Kodak Playsport video

camera! Second and third place winners will also receive prizes. Contest winners will be announced during the Earth Day Trashion Fashion Show scheduled for April 25.

For photo contest rules and additional information, visit https://www.facebook.com/ OurLaolao or contact Assistant Campaign Coordinator Rachelle Muna at rachellemuna@gmail.com. To learn more about the Our Laolao Campaign visit www.ourlaolao.com. (PR)



Hotel tax hike, Fund refund bill now on governor's desk

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com REPORTER

A bill increasing the hotel occupancy tax by 5 percentage points effective April 1, 2013, to help fund the marketing and promotion of the CNMI as a tourist destination and another measure clarifying the provisions of a law allowing refund of contributions to the NMI Retirement Fund are now on Gov. Eloy S. Inos's desk for action. The House of Representatives passed the two bills on Friday morning.

The governor is expected to act on the bills as early as today.

By a vote of 19-1, the House passed the Senate-amended House Bill 18-2, House Draft 1 or the hotel tax hike bill.

If signed into law, the CNMI's hotel occupancy tax will increase from 10 percent to 15 percent next month.

The bill is a "compromise" between the government and hoteliers following the non-implementation of three previous laws that aimed to generate more funds for the Marianas Visitors Authority's tourism destination marketing and promotion programs.

Rep. Janet Maratita (IR-Saipan) voted "no" to the bill, citing the need to further clarify some of its provisions.

House minority leader George Camacho (R-Saipan), author of HB 18-2, said the measure's passage is "welcome news" at a time when "things are looking good for tourism and the CNMI."

"We must continue to invest in our tourism industry," he told *Saipan Tribune*.

The House also passed Vice Speaker Frank Dela Cruz's (IR-Saipan) HB 18-12, which clarifies the provisions of Public Law 17-82 to change timelines and help expedite the refunds of NMI Retirement Fund contributions.

House members agreed with the Senate's removal of the portion about the Defined Contribution Plan from pages 4 to 5, so that Defined Benefit Plan members can get 50 percent of their contributions, among other things. Lawmakers agreed to come up with a separate bill addressing the needs of DC Plan members.

The House also passed floor leader Ralph Demapan's (Cov-Saipan) H.B. 18-27, merging the Emergency Management Office and the Office of Homeland Security to help reduce government costs and improve efficiency.

The bill now goes to the Senate for action.

If the merger bill is signed into law, it will create the CNMI Homeland Security and Emergency Management. The EMO-OHS merger bill's passage comes days after the Inos administration announced plans to also merge the Department of Labor and Workforce Investment Agency.

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NMI Department of Labor Employment Services @ 664-3190

The Bridge Project @ 287-7037.

Or Sign up on our website

http://bridge.marianas.us

The Bridge Project is funded through a grant from the Office of Insular Affairs and the NMI Department of Commerce



Fund calls CPA's motion meritless, frivolous

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE

ferdie delatorre@saipantribune.com

The NMI Retirement Fund has asked the federal court to deny what it called a meritless motion by the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

Trustee ad litem Joseph Razzano, through counsel Braddock J. Huesman, said that CPA has no standing no seek a writ of mandamus that would compel the Fund to comply with the intent of Public Law 17-82. That law allows Fund members to withdraw the full amount of their contributions from the Fund without separating from the government.

Even if CPA has standing to seek the writ of mandamus, Razzano said that the U.S. District Court for the NMI should not

MICHAEL A. WHITE, ESQ. F0122 MICHAEL A. WHITE, LLC POST OFFICE BOX 5222 SAIPAN, MARIANA ISLANDS 96950 FAX: (670) 234-9537

ATTORNEYS FOR Plaintiff

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

JUAN SABLAN TORRES. : CIVIL ACTION Plaintiff, : NO. 08-0321

BERNADITA R. MERCADO,

NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Writ of Execution issued by the Court in this matter on February 2013, I will sell, at public auction to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth hereinbelow, all of the right, title, and interest of Defendant in and the following property:

Parcel One:

Lot No. 001 D 51, situated in Puntan Muchot, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, containing an area of 617 square meters, more or less, all as more particularly shown on Drawing/ stral Plat No. 001 D 000, the description herein being incorporated herein by reference

Parcel Two:

Lot E.A. 693-8, situated in Chalan Piao, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands containing an area of 862 square meters more or less, as more particularly bounded and described as follows Beginning at a corner which is designated as Corner No. 1, having

plane rectangular coordinates of 47,315.65 meters North and 48,839.96 meters East of the Mariana Islands Coordinate System of 1966.

Thence N 66° 56' 09" W, 25.06 meters to Corner 2; Thence N 23° 00' 51" E. 34.38 meters

Thence S 66° 59' 09" E, 25.06 meters to Corner 4; Thence S 23° 00' 51" W, 34.38 meters

to Corner 1; The point of beginning.

Parcel Three: Lot No. 004 D 18 (formerly Block 2, Lot 4). situated in Garapan, Saipan Northern Mariana Islands, and containing an area of 929 square meters, as shown on the Division of Lands and Surveys Official Cadastral Plat No. 004 D 00 dated October 30, 1970, the description therein being incorporated herein by reference

Parcel Four: Lot No. 004 D 19 (formerly Block 2, Lot 5) situated in Garapan, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, containing an area of 929 square meters, as shown on the Division of Lands and Surveys Official Cadastral Plat No. 004 D 00 dated October 30, 1970, the description there in being incorporated

<u>Date, Time, and Place of Sale</u>. The sale will be held on Friday, April 5, 2013, at the hour of 1:30 p.m., at The Law Offices of Michael A. White, Esq., Joeten Center, Susupe, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public.

Terms and Conditions of Sale. The Terms and Conditions of Sale may be obtained from the undersigned, either prior to or shall govern the conduct of the sale.

DATED, this 1st day of March, 2013:

/s/MICHAEL A. WHITE, Auctioneer

compel the action CPA is seeking.

Razzano asked the federal court to order CPA pay the Fund all costs and attorneys' fees for filing the motion "without merit."

CPA argues that P.L. 17-82 imposes clear, nondiscretionary duties on the Fund and its administrator to approve and pay out employee funds.

Because of CPA's motion, the Fund removed its 2006 lawsuit filed in Superior Court against the CNMI government and transferred it to federal court last week.

In the Fund's opposition filed Wednesday to CPA's motion, Huesman said the remedy of mandamus "is a drastic one, to be invoked only in extraordinary circumstances."

Instead of attempting to intervene in District Court, Huesman said that CPA chose to interfere with the Fund's trustee ad litem and file the meritless request for a writ of mandamus.

The lawyer said the Fund has been forced to expend its dwindling resources, both time and money, to fight frivolous positions taken by its adversaries in the courts.

Huesman said CPA's motion is the latest frivolous and improper action taken against the Fund.

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY

CNMI GOVERNMENT

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

RFP13-OHS-014-COURTHOUSE

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COPIES OF THE RFP PACKAGE MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY IN LOWER BASE DRIVE, SAIPAN DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

ALL QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS PROJECT MUST BE SUBMITTED IIN WRITING TO MR. CARL DELA CRUZ, OHS PROCUREMENT OFFICER BY E-MAIL TO ohs.delacruz@gmail.com NO LATER THAN THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS. MARCH 22.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

Huesman said CPA filed its motion in Superior Court even though it was aware that the issue was squarely before the District Court.

Moreover, the lawyer said, CPA never sought the District Court's permission to bring a claim against the court's designated trustee ad litem.

Huesman said that if CPA employees want to sue the Fund, that is their right, not CPA's.

"This standing problem is to pervasive that it infects and defeats the request for mandamus," he added.

CPA counsel Robert Torres recently stated that they will certainly respond to the Fund's court action.

Torres said CPA and its employees have great concerns regarding the handling of the matter inasmuch as the Fund brought the case in Superior Court all the way to judgment.

"This is not a new action and CPA will continue to assert and protect its interests, disagreeing with the approach of the trustee but agreeing only in the intended goal of obtaining satisfaction of judgment," Torres said.

The Fund filed the lawsuit in Superior Court in 2006 against then govenor Benigno Fitial, the CNMI government, and co-defendants over the government's failure to remit required payments to the Fund.



Happy, happy birthday greetings to Adela Hernandez, who is celebrating her special day today, March 10, 2013! We wish you good health and more blessings to come and God bless! Happy birthday, reyna! Greetings come from your Hernandez family! **CONTRIBUTED PHOTO**

Happy first birthday to Princess Althea Dionn! You are a pregift that we shall cherish! We promise to

love you unconditionally! Lots of love from Mommy Diann and Daddy Alex.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Нарру 14th birthday to our beautiful Chamorita, Jeanille Elseanor Dela Cruz Lizama!

love you tremendously! Greetings come from Dad and Mom. Milton, Jayna, Ursula, Jiandra, and the Dela Cruz, Lizama, Songao, Galvan, and Naputi

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

We

Wiliam Kenneth C. Belveu P.O. Box 503129

Phone: (670) 285-3775

Saipan, MP 96950

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

William Kenneth Castro Belyeu) FCD-DI-CIVIL Petitioner. ACTION NO. 13-0078 SUMMONS FOR Sharon Kay Faulkner PUBLICATION

TO: Sharon Kay Faulkner

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and notified to file any answer you wish to make to the Complaint, a copy of which is on file with the court, within thirty (30) days after service of the Summons upon you, and to deliver or mail a copy of your answer to William Kenneth C. Belveu whose address is P.O. Box 503129 Saipan, MP 96950 as soon as practical after filing your answer or sending it to the Clerk of Courts for filing.

Your answer should be in writing and filed with the Clerk of this Court at P.O. Box 500307 Susupe Saipan, MP 96950. It may be prepared for you by your counsel and sent to the Clerk of this Court by messenger or Mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice. If you fail to file and answer in accordance with this summons judgment by default may be taken against you for relief in the complaint.

Dated this 20th day of February, 2013.

Patrick V. Diaz

/s/ Deputy Clerk of Court



Mar. 11, 2004

PSS wants its money back

The Public School System wants to get back any of its unused money from the Office of the Public Auditor in light of its serious need for funding. Board of Education chairman Roman C. Benavente said the board will discuss the issue in today's meeting. "We're looking at the possibility. If that's allowed, then we want to get any unused money we have from OPA because we have several funding needs," said Benavente. Under the law, PSS, like all other government agencies, is required to remit 1 percent of its operations budget every year to OPA to cover audit costs. Earlier, PSS had argued that the mandated OPA deduction be computed against the agency's net budget, not the gross amount of \$37.2 million.

House recalls \$400K measure for road project

The House of Representatives yesterday recalled a \$400,000-infrastructure projects bill so the money could be returned to the Precinct 2 water reservoir project, at the prodding of the Water Task Force Chairman, Lt. Gov. Diego T. Benavente. Benavente lobbied Legislature members to return the money to the water infrastructure project, stressing that the reservoir is a vital part in resolving the island's perpetual water woes, particularly in the Chalan Kanoa and Susupe areas. House Bill 14-51, which saw passage last week, had reappropriated exactly \$300,000 for Precinct 4 road improvements and \$100,000 for the renovation of the Susupe Beach Park in Precinct 2.

Mar 11, 2005

Bill penalizing govt for late payments defeated

With only seven "yes" votes from the House leadership, a bill that aims to penalize the government if it fails to settle debts owed to vendors after 60 days was defeated during Wednesday's session. House Bill 14-290, or the Government Prompt Payment proposal authored by Vice Speaker Timothy Villagomez, was rejected by nine lawmakers-the entire minority bloc plus leadership member Janet Maratita. Another leadership member, Tinian congressman Norman S. Palacios, abstained. Prior to voting, minority bloc Rep. Heinz S. Hofschneider said the bill "is redundant and not really necessary." "Finance is the trustee of funds under the Constitution, not the agencies, so this bill only adds another complication," said Hofschneider.

High Court affirms \$350K judgment vs tour firm

The Supreme Court has rejected an appeal by a tour company and one of its employees that sought to avoid paying over \$350,000 in damages owed to two traffic accident victims. In its March 8 decision, the Supreme Court upheld a Superior Court decision ordering STS Enterprises Inc. and Joseph Anthony Rasa to pay Christine E. Santos and her son Carlos \$355,577.17 in economic, non-economic, and punitive damages. "We find no abuse of discretion in the trial court's admission of Rasa's testimony that he tested positive for marijuana the day after the accident and no error in the court's decision allowing the issue of punitive damages to go to the jury. We further find that the amount of punitive damages awarded by the jury was not excessive under the circumstances," associate justices Alexandro C. Castro and John A. Manglona said.

Mar. 11, 2006

Casino industry on a roll

The Fitial administration will sign an agreement for a fourth ca sino investment on Tinian next week, the governor announced yesterday. Gov. Benigno R. Fitial also said that the administration has found a fifth investor that could take the final casino license that the gaming commission was allowed to grant under the Tinian gaming control act. According to the governor, the CNMI government and Baltimore-based Cordish Company will sign the memorandum of agreement next week. Cordish is reportedly looking to build a casino and golf course on Tinian. The minimum investment amount is about \$200 million.

Hotel investor eyeing Hopwood lot

An international luxury hotel company wants to use the Hopwood Junior High School property as the location of a new hotel on Saipan. Gov. Benigno R. Fitial, who met with businessmen in Japan last week, reported that Okura Hotels and Resorts is eyeing Hopwood as the site for its new hotel. "They [Okura] have been eyeing the Hopwood property since 12-13 years ago. But I don't have a place to relocate Hopwood," Fitial said.

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

/S/ MARVIN K. SEMAN SPECIAL ASSITANT FOR HOMELAND SECURITY

KRISNALYN FCD-DI CIVIL D. REYES NO. 12-0478 Petitioner SUMMONS FOR PUBLICATION MARLON V. REYES Respondent,

TO THE ABOVE NAME RESPONDENT:

YOUR ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and notified to file any answer you wish to make the Complaint, a copy of which is on file service of the Summons upon you, and to deliver or mail a copy of your answer to the Petitioner whose address is P.O. Box 501932, Saipan, MP 96950 as soon as practical after filing your answer or sending it to the Clerk of Courts for filing.

Your answer should be in writing and filed with the Clerk of this Court at P.O. Box 500307 Susupe, Saipan, MP 96950. It may be prepared for you by your counsel and sent to the Clerk of this Court by messenger or Mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice. If you fail to file and answer in accordance with this summons, judgment by default may be taken against you for relief in the complaint.

Dated this 30th day of January, 2013.

/s/ Clerk of Court

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN DIRECTOR, P&S

FCD-DI CIVIL NO. 13-0051 Petitioner SUMMONS FOR PUBLICATION ANDERSON PARKS, Respondent.

TO THE ABOVE-NAMED RESPONDANT:

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and notified to file any answer you wish to make to the Complaint, a copy which is on file with the court, within thirty (30) days after service of the Summons upon you, and to deliver or mail a copy of your answer to the Petitioner whose address is P.O. Box 501456, Saipan, MP 96950, as soon as practical after filing your answer or sending it to the Clerk of Courts for filing.

Your answer should be in writing and filed with the Clerk of this Court at P.O. Box 500307 Susupe, Saipan, MP 96950. It may be prepared for you by your counsel and sent to the Clerk of this Court by messenger or Mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice. If you fail to answer in accordance with this summons, judgment by default may be taken against you for relief in the Complaint.

DATED, this 6th day of February, 2013:

/s/ Clerk of Court

2013 Congressional Art Competition is now open

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) is once again inviting high school students from the Northern Mariana Islands to participate in the annual Congressional Arts Competition. The winning artwork of one Northern Marianas student will be displayed at the U.S. Capitol alongside the works of students from each of the nation's 441 congressional districts.

"This is the fifth year that the

The U.S. Air Force will conduct

training on the island of Farallon

de Medinilla on March 11-14,

from 8pm to 1am. The U.S. Navy

will conduct training at Warning

Area 517 on March 12-13, from

The public—especially fish-

ermen, commercial pilots, and

Northern Mariana Islands will have one of our student's artwork on display at the Capitol," said Sablan. "It remains exciting to see our home represented in the gallery along with the work of other talented young people from around the country.

"And visitors to the congressional office are always so pleased to see the Northern Marianas art on display, when we take them on the Capitol tour."

advised to stay clear from the

area during the times and dates

The general location of the

training on the island of Faral-

lon de Medinilla training area

will be on a 10 nautical mile

radius on all quadrants. W-517

indicated.

The Congressional Arts Competition is open to high school students from grades 9 through 12. There is no specific theme that artists must follow, though in years past the Northern Marianas entries have often depicted scenes from the islands.

Previous years winners have

- 2009: Rosanna Camacho,
- 2010: Aaron Tomokane,

Marianas High School

Air Force, Navy training on FDM, Warning Area 517 marine tour operators—are is an irregular shaped polygon comprising of 14,000 nautical square miles of airspace that begins south of Guam and extends south-southwest in international waters. This will affect fishing in the vicinity of Santa Rosa Reef and Galvez

Kagman High School

- 2011: Bryan Jose Obaldo Deleon Guerrero, Marianas High School
- 2012: Hannah Alcordo, Marianas High School

The winning Marianas entry is selected by a panel of local

"I would not want to make that decision," Sablan said. "Each year we receive more entries; and each year the quality of the art is quite amazing.'

Work in any media is allowed as long as the work is essentially two dimensional. There is great variety represented among the winning entries: paintings in oil, acrylic, and watercolor hang beside drawings in pastels, colored pencils, charcoal, ink, and marker. Collages, lithographs, silkscreens,

block prints, photographs, and Entries should be delivered or computer-generated artwork have all been chosen in the national competition.

Each entry must be original in concept, design, and execution and may not violate any U.S. copyright laws. Any entry that has been reproduced from a photo, painting, graphic, advertisement, or any other work produced by another person will be disqualified.

The artwork cannot weigh more than 15 lbs nor be larger than 28 inches high by 28 inches wide by 4 inches deep.

Guidelines and student release forms are available at http://sablan.house.gov/servingyou/art-competition

The deadline for submissions is Friday, April 12, 2013.

mailed to one of the congressional district offices on Saipan, Rota or Tinian, which are open Monday through Friday from 8am to 5pm. The Saipan office is also open on Saturday from 8am to noon.

For further information, contact Michelle Tenorio at the Washington, DC office (michelle.tenorio@mail.house. gov, phone toll free: (877) 446-3465), Paula Bermudes at the Saipan office (paula. bermudes@mail.house.gov, phone: (670) 323-2647/8), Harry Masga at the Rota office (harry.masga@mail.house. gov, phone: (670) 532-2647), or Jose Kiyoshi at the Tinian office (jose.kiyoshi@mail. house.gov, phone (670) 433-2647). **(PR)**



8:30am to 3:30pm.

Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation

Bank. *(PR)*

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands 1 Lower Navy Hill Road Navy Hill, Saipan, MP 96950



PROJECT BRAB

Public Service Announcement - Availability of Federal Funds

The Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation: Department of Public Health Substance Abuse Prevention Unit - Project Brabu is pleased to announce the availability of federal funds, through the Strategic Prevention Framework State Incentive Grant (SPF SIG) for eligible communities in the CNMI to apply. This project is funded by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)

Details of the grant and funds available are listed below.

Strategic Prevention Framework State Incentive Grant (SPF SIG):

FY 2013 \$ 450,000

The planning and implementation of this grant award will focus on four primary goals:

- **Build Prevention Capacity and Infrastructure in the CNMI**
- Prevent the Initiation of and Reduce Substance Abuse, Including Childhood and Underage Drinking 2.)
- 3.) **Reduce Substance Abuse-related Problems**
- 4.) **Evaluate All Activities**

The SPF SIG provides awarded communities with the opportunity to build and/or strengthen an effective and sustainable evidencebased prevention program that is responsive to the needs of the CNMI community. Community programs are required to implement evidence-based prevention programs focused on the following priorities that have been determined by Project Brabu and the State Epidemiological Workgroup (SEW):

- Underage Drinking, and/or
- **Drinking and Driving**

This grant award requires a Strategic Prevention Framework to help guide communities toward successful program management process following the five steps below:

- Assessment: Accurately assess community problems, assets, and resources;
- Capacity: Describe current capacity and/or plans to build capacity; 2)
- 3) Planning: Develop a comprehensive Strategic Plan;
- Implement: Identify the evidence-based program, policy, or practice to be implemented;
- Evaluate: Process and impact evaluation through monitoring and documentation of program implementation.

The Project Brabu Advisory Council will make the final recommendation in consultation and collaboration with the SPF SIG Project Director on applications to be awarded based on a point system. Ranking and scoring by the Scoring Committee and/or the Advisory Council interview process are not subject to protest or appeal. Upon notification of an interview with the Advisory Council, organizations are required to appear on the scheduled day. Failure to do so will result in the rejection of the application. The grant application guidelines detail the information required and the points under each of the sections.

All completed applications must be submitted to the CHCC: DPH Project Brabu's office on Saipan and the Prevention Coordina tors on Tinian and Rota no later than 3:30 p.m. on Friday, May 3, 2013.

Sub-Grant Application forms and guidelines may be obtained at the Project Brabu Office at the CHCC: DPH or the Substance Abuse Prevention offices on Rota and Tinian. Also, the application form and guidelines are available online at www.cgcspn.net. For more information, please contact Ms. Tiara Evangelista at 236-8740 or ti.evangelista@gmail.com (Saipan); Mr. Keith Nabors, Prevention Coordinator (Tinian) at 433-6572 or tiniantyphoon@hotmail.com; or Ms. Avery Hocog, Prevention Coordinator (Rota) at 532-9461 or projectbraburota@yahoo.com.

Pre application workshops are scheduled as follows:

- March 27 (Saipan), LaoLao Bay Resort Saipan April 5 (Tinian), TBD
- April 12 (Rota), TBD

These workshops will provide on-site technical assistance in discussing the Strategic Prevention Framework (SPF) 5-step process, the sub grant components and requirements. The workshops are available to interested community members/agencies and are free of charge; however, slots are limited and pre-registration is required. Please contact the coordinators on each respective island to pre-register.

> /s/ Mr. Claudio Norita Chairman, Advisory Council

/s/ Mrs. Reyna Saures SPF SIG Project Director



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Commonwealth Utilities Corporation Office of the Executive Director



INVITATION FOR BIDS

CUC-IFB-13-016 PROCUREMENT & INSTALLATION OF LED STREET LIGHTS

The Office of the Executive Director for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified and experienced firms for the procurement and installation of Light Emitting Diodes (LED) Street Lights on Saipan, Tinian and Rota, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. This project is funded through a grant from the U.S. Department of Energy (USDOE) under the American Re and Reinvestment Act (ARRA).

The Bid Package may be obtained, upon receipt of a non-refundable payment from the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card, in the amount of \$100.00 for one set; at the CUC, Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan, between 7:30 AM to 11:30 AM and 12:30 PM to 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays.

A Pre-Bid Conference will be held at 10:00 AM (ChST) on March 14, 2013 at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan. One (1) original and Five (5) copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC-IFB-13-016. Procurement and Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on April

9, 2013 at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bids mailed via postal or courier service must be received on or before due date and time or post-marked before submission deadline. Late submissions and conditional offers will no be considered. A Bid Guarantee of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, eashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A Payment Bond of one hundred (100%) percent and a Performance Bond of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualifications should be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.

The bidder is required to submit a copy of his CNMI Business license in compliance with the Contractor's Registration and Licensing Laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The Contractor and all subcontractors will be biligated to pay wage rates not less than the current CNMI minimum wage, prevailing through the period of contract, as indicated in the web page—http://www.dol.gov/esa/minwage/cnmi/cnmi.htm. The contractor will also be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws including the Davis Bacon Act.

All bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid or supply under the contract. The IFB does not commit CUC to award a contract, to pay any cost incurred in the preparation of the bid under this request, or to procure or contract for goods. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed as per the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All questions regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on March 19, 2013 to Manny B. Sablan, Jr., CUC Purchasing Officer, via email manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Alfredo Palattao, Power Division Engineer via email alfred.palattao@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

ALAN W. FLETCHER

10 MONDAY, MARCH 11, 2013 SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Opinion



Published daily at 2/F JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP 96950

Jayvee L. Vallejera EDITOR
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MEMBER

AP The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

Hugo Chavez's legacy

The following editorial appeared in the Los Angeles Times on Thursday, March 7:

enezuelan President Hugo Chavez, who died Tuesday of cancer at age 58, was beloved and reviled, bombastic and provocative, a flamboyant figure who was vastly influential in his country and throughout the region.

The former paratrooper-turned-populist promised to use Venezuela's vast oil wealth to improve life for the country's poor, and by most accounts he did just that. From 1997 to 2011, he reduced the percentage of people living in moderate poverty from 54 percent to 31 percent, and those living in extreme poverty from 23 percent to 9 percent, according to the World Bank. He dramatically reduced illiteracy, set up medical clinics in slums and working-class barrios, and established discount grocery stores. But even as he wielded his power to rally, energize and protect his country's poor, he also used it to reinforce his own position, attack his critics and censor the media. He passed laws that extended his time in office, as well as measures that allowed him to arbitrarily suspend television and radio stations. He stacked the courts with supporters.

And he waged a long, theatrical war of words with the United States, palling around with Cuba's Fidel Castro and embracing leaders such as Iraq's Saddam Hussein and Iran's Mahmoud Ahmadinejad.

His anti-U.S. rhetoric drove the George W. Bush administration crazy, but it also helped spearhead a reassessment by Latin American leaders of their relationship with the global superpower to the north. For better or worse, Chavez pushed for regional integration closer to home, helping set up organizations—such as the Union of South American Nations—that intentionally excluded Washington. The United States' decision to support a 2002 coup that briefly led to Chavez's ouster only deepened his hostility toward Washington.

Now the question is what comes next in Venezuela. His handpicked successor, Nicolas Maduro, is expected to face an election within 30 days and, if he wins it, a bleak economic future, rising crime rates and a deeply polarized nation. Unlike the former president, Maduro, an ex-union organizer who served as foreign minister, may lack the charisma and political capital to win broad support and stave off political opponents.

It is hoped whoever leads Venezuela next will understand that the best way to win support and preserve the gains of the unfinished Bolivarian Revolution of Hugo Chavez won't be by attacking those who disagree with him, but by ensuring that all Venezuelans, rich and poor alike, have a voice in the government.

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When I got up to read I was so embarrassed

s we sit back and read this article we probably don't realize the valuable skill and special ability we are exercising. The ability to read is taken for granted by many of us. We seldom think about the important role it has in our lives. But think for a moment. If we were not able to read would we have our current position? Would we get promotions? Would we be as knowledgeable about current affairs and the life around us? Would we earn as much as we do if we had a low reading ability?

It is important to review what skills are necessary for us to succeed in life, and sound reading skills is one of the most vital. To tell someone that he is a poor or a slow reader is perhaps one of the most serious insults we can give. Also the poor reader is never more embarrassed than when he is asked to read aloud. Can we remember when we were in school and asked to stand up and read aloud?

Reading is the gateway to success in life. I personally feel that there is no other quicker vehicle to success than the ability to handle the written word. Unless we are able to read well, the world will pass us by. We are besieged with a plethora of reading material daily, and unless we are able to cope with it we will fail in most of our endeavors.

Recently I came across a startling headline in a Los Angeles newspaper that blared out "Learn to Read, Stay Out of Jail: Failed Teaching Methods Help to Breed Criminals." It was written by Matthew Robinson of the *Investors Business Daily* newspaper. Government and academic data show that illiteracy is a big factor of delinquency. About three in five of America's prison inmates are illiterate. Experts agree that illiteracy breeds frustration, which often leads to a life of crime.

A National Adult Literacy Survey has found that 21 million or more Americans do not read at all, while 45 million are marginally illiterate and one fifth of high school graduates can not read their diplomas. Functionally illiterate adults cost over \$225 billion a year in welfare, crime, bad job performance, lost taxes, and remedial education. Three-fourths of the nation's biggest 500 firms provide some level of remedial training to their workers. That costs about \$300 million a year and affects over 8 million workers. An estimated \$5 billion in taxes goes to support people on unemployment who cannot find work due to illiteracy. These are staggering facts!

Could poor reading be also one of the reasons why resident workers so often are not hired or if they are hired are placed in menial jobs? What are we doing to improve our reading ability? Will our society benefit if we help the functionally illiterate adults?

I recall years ago while working in Hawaii, my foreman was a poor reader. He was a hard worker and knew how to do good work, but he had trouble ordering material and reading instruction manuals. One day while discussing this problem with him, I suggested that for his birthday I would get him a tutor to help

By ANTHONY PELLEGRINO

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Pellegrino is a longtime businessman in the CNMI and is a former president of the Saipan Chamber of Commerce.



he pleasantly agreed to my suggestion. In several months of effort, his reading greatly improved and his work also improved. To thank me he presented me a course in scuba diving which I heartily appreciated and enjoyed.

Centuries ago to be able to read was considered a form of magic.

him improve his reading. I thought he would be insulted; instead

The word "grammar" comes from the evolution of the word "glamour" which means an exciting and often illusory romantic attractiveness. Reading was considered a science practiced by the clergy. Monks copied manuscripts by hand, which in turn were read only by select learned individuals.

Later the printing press revolutionized all that. Gradually books became a commodity. Soon reading became a skilled activity. As more and more people learned how to read, its importance in everyone's life increased. Computers require that we be able to read well or we end up doing only basic computer work. On the other hand, television allows us to sit and be fed whatever we choose. Today many of us even download books and read them on our portable computers.

The examples are endless about the value of good reading. We judge people first from physical appearances. Next we judge their mental abilities. Finally we admire and respect people who speak, write, and read well. Sometimes we stand in awe of them as though they possess a magical power. Why is that? Are they more "glamorous" than we?

Let me relate a personal experience. When I entered college I was a poor reader. I hadn't enjoyed reading while in high school. In fact, I had to beg the dean to let me enroll on a probationary basis. I told him that if I couldn't pass the courses I would drop out before he asked me. Reluctantly he agreed.

Then a miracle happened when classes began. By accident I met a returning soldier who also had enrolled at the same time as me. As we became friends, he urged me to read more daily. He showed me the love of words and books. In a short time, I was spending four to five hours a day sitting in the college library reading and reading. Several times I forget to attend classes, being so engrossed in my books. That saved my college career and opened up a whole new

See WHEN on Next Page

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish

and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

A few more health tips!

By RUSS MASON, M.S.

Special to the Saipan Tribune

For the better part of a decade, Russ Mason wrote for a medical journal, Alternative & Complementary Therapies. His principal assignment was to interview a physician or other health care practitioner about new and important treatments, as well as diet and nutrition. Prior



to that, he worked at NBC in New York for 16 years, often as a writer for their television programs.

ear are a few more health tips that almost nobody knows about.

Want to lose weight easily?

There are three soluble nutrients that can help you rapidly lose weight. Although they are safe, be careful and read the labels.

The first is Chitosan. It is a fine powder, derived from the ground up shell of lobster, shrimp, and crab. This is called chitin. Once taken, this powder absorbs stray fats in the gut and carries them out of your body before they can be absorbed. It works very well. However, if you are allergic to shellfish, then do not take it. You can find Chitosan on many websites. The standard dose is two 500mg capsules, taken 30 minutes before a meal.

The second is Phase 2. This is a starch-blocker, and it also works very well. If you are eating a lot of rice, pasta, or potatoes, take

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

two 500mg caps 30 minutes before the meal. It will help block the absorption of these starches and render a slimmer you. It may be taken at the same time as Chitosan, for a double-whammy weight loss combination.

The third is Senna Leaf Tea. This is to be used sparingly, since it may cause diarrhea. The best Senna Leaf Tea is the Alvita brand. If you drink one cup before a heavy meal, you may race to the bathroom later. This tea is cheaply available at swansonvitamins.com, as are Phase 2 and Chitosan (marketed as Lipo-San Ultra).

Cure for the common cold

Ginger tea. It will stop a cold dead flat. This is one of the best aspects of Chinese medicine, but not many people know of it.

My mother used to hire a woman named Marilyn to come to our house and help my elderly mom clean the house and furniture. One day Marilyn arrived with a terrible cold. As she sat at our kitchen table, she dabbed her nose with a tissue. She looked terrible. Within minutes I set a steaming mug of hot ginger tea in front of Marilyn. She nodded and started to drink it.

Her cold was gone before she got up from the table. The ginger tea set her right. "My God," said Marilyn. "What is this stuff?"

Although I gave Marilyn Alvita Ginger Tea in tea bags, you can make it fresh from real ginger. Using a cheese grater, scrub some fresh ginger until you have about 1 tablespoon of tiny, moist, pieces. Put them into a mug, add boiling water, stir, cover, and let it sit for 10 minutes. Then strain and drink it. This will stop any cold dead.

Cure for a headache

This treatment may sound crazy, but it works for a small, behind-your-forehead headache. You will need a cold, damp washcloth and

a refrigerator magnet.

Lie down. Put the refrigerator magnet on top of the headache. Then cover it, and the rest of your forehead, with the cold cloth. Your headache will go away.

The little magnet souvenirs you can buy in gift shops are effective, since our bodies have numerous magnetic fields, and they react to an exterior magnet. Some people even put magnetic insoles in their shoes, and claim health benefits from them.

If you are at work and can't lie down, then use tape to secure the magnet to your head. Yes, people will look at you funny. Who cares?

Laughter heals

This is not just a good idea, it's a scientific fact: Laugher can help to heal what ails you such as high blood pressure, stress, pain, and it can even increase immune response. And most of us love a good laugh.

Just before I came to Saipan, I gave a talk at a medical conference, sponsored by the University of New Mexico School of Medicine. I had a large audience of doctors, nurses, and other health care practitioners before me. They had come to my plenary session, The Healing Power of Humor.

I told them that, as caregivers, they needed to make their patients feel good, feel happy, to be positive. They needed to put joke books in the reception areas, and not brochures on "new horizons in rheumatoid arthritis." Nobody wants to read that stuff, especially patients who are nervous about visiting the doctor in the first place.

In French, humeur means mood. That is, you could be in a good humor or a foul humor. But in the U.S.A., it means something that usually makes you laugh, smile, or feel happy.

I am aware that health care practitioners are not comedians. They have work to do, but even a simple smile, directed at the nervous patient, can make them feel better immediately.

I love to joke with strangers. Some joke back, others give me blank stares. For example, if I go into CUC to pay my bill, I will step up to the counter, look up for a few seconds and say, "I…would like the Cadillac burger…"

Laughter itself is healing, and a wise person finds time to laugh every day, even if it's about nothing special.

opted the Saipanda as its mascot. The mascot—its name and islander to answer. Trying to answer a question about the Saipanda every of the Chinese panda, the horn of would indeed be embarrassing since there is neither rhyme nor rea-

The need to replace the 'Saipanda' mascot

ity adopted the Saipanda as its mascot. The mascot—its name and character—is a "hybridization" of the Chinese panda, the horn of a rhinoceros, and the word Saipan. I have always thought that this strange and unusual animal is devoid of any relevance or meaning to our people, as well as the culture and customs of the Northern Mariana Islands. For one thing, the CNMI has no panda bears whatsoever. Neither do we have any rhinoceros, which are mostly found in Africa. And finally, the play on the word "Saipan" is not only tasteless but confusing to both residents and visitors alike.

Dear Gov. Inos: About 10 years ago, the Marianas Visitors Author-

Now that the visitor industry is once again beginning to pick up steam, our visitor industry leaders and stakeholders should seriously consider replacing the Saipanda theme with a different animal, like the Chamorro fruit bat or one of our colorful island birds, or even the local coconut crab that so many visitors to our islands are so eager to taste. Any of those themes would be directly relevant to our island culture and would make visitors to our islands ask questions about the mascot and about our culture, customs, and traditions. Doing so would also be in complete contrast to a visitor asking a ques-

tion about the Saipanda, which would be quite embarrassing for an islander to answer. Trying to answer a question about the Saipanda would indeed be embarrassing since there is neither rhyme nor reason associating such a mascot with the CNMI. Not only that, but it also invites the following question from a visitor: "Whose [crazy] idea is this?"

I would like to suggest to the MVA, the Hotel Association of the Northern Mariana Islands, the Saipan Chamber of Commerce, and all visitor industry stakeholders to get together and consider holding a contest to consider a new visitor industry theme, including a new mascot for the industry. Every resident should be urged to participate so that we could get the best possible entry for such an important decision for our visitor industry. An appropriate monetary, travel, and personal recognition should be offered as awards for first, second and third place winners. What do you think? *Enfin serafin*.

Alexandro "Colonel" Sablan

Dandan, Saipan

Thank you

On behalf of the U.S. Pinoys for Good Governance, I would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude and sincere appreciation to the donors, volunteers, sponsors and those who supported, helped, collaborated, and assisted us in the fundraising events for the benefit of the prizes of the winners of the essay contest on the West Philippine Sea, "Bento for a Cause," and Immigration Forum that were held on Feb. 14 and Feb. 17, 2013, respectively, on Saipan, CNMI.

I would like to thank Gov. Eloy S. Inos, Lt. Gov. Jude U. Hofschneider, Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan, Senate President Ralph Torres, Sen. Frank Cruz, Sen. Paul Manglona, and attorneys Loida Nicolas Lewis, Ted Laguatan, and Rodel Rodis.

The volunteers and donors in the fundraising of the U.S. Pinoys for Good Governance Marianas Chapter are the following: attorney Loida Nicolas Lewis, Ronald P. Lamkin, Dr. Celia B. Lamkin, Angelina Borja Quinata, Nancy Baldoz, Island Florals and Gifts, Lebi Legaspi, Nhitz Manalo, Jericho B. Santos, John Raymond B. Sablan, Zaldy Dandan, *Marianas Variety*, Gerry Malit, Rosendo Maceda, Fanny dela Rosa, Morena Nava, Salde Nava,, Janette Ritual, Nomer Arcangel, Eddie Belocora, RV Caberos, Edgar Genobaten, Jimmy Blancia, Malou Melchor, Lee Ganacias, Leo Ganacias, KWAW 100.3 FM, Danny Bunag, Jess Yumul, YCO Corp., Fr. Rey Rosal, Jayvee Vallejera, *Saipan Tribune*, Ramil Santos, Erlinda Ruga, Pastor Alvaro Samonte, Pastors Pang and Pastor Puno, Clarissa David, Ferdie dela Torre, Islander Rent a Car, Norma Marfega Arnold, ASKS Fashion Sa-

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Thank you very much, maraming salamat po, and si yu'us maase!

Dr. Celia B. Lamkin

Chairperson, U.S. Pinoys for Good Governance Marianas chapter Chairperson, USP4GG Essay Contest on West Philippine Sea Committee

The Dalai Lama

My old friend Rich is a professional clown and mime artist. He is also quite spiritual and lives an upright life.

One day, His Holiness the Dalai Lama was in Rochester, New York, and Rich went to hear him speak. Rich had just finished a clown gig, and had a bag full of clown noses which he had previously let the kids wear.

After the talk, the Dalai Lama, went among the crowd and bowed to each person. When he came to Rich, His Holiness did a double-take. (He can apparently see everything). He pointed to the bag and said, "What's that?"

Rich said, "Clown noses, your holiness."

"Come with me!" smiled the Dalai Lama.

Soon they were in a private room, wearing clown noses, and whooping it up like little kids, making funny faces at each other.

I sometimes wish I could go around Saipan and make everyone wear a red clown nose for a day. It would sure be a more interesting place to live.

WHEN

From Page 10

world of books and reading throughout my lifetime. Often I wonder what I would have become had I not improved my reading ability. I learned that it is never too late to improve our reading ability.

We notice that if the mother and father are readers, so will the children be. If parents do not read, usually the children do not also. I realize that the schools are doing the best they can. But we must keep motivating children to improve their reading ability. A word to all of us. Try an experiment such as spending two or three months improving our reading ability. Than apply for a higher position. I will not take odds because we will win in getting a promotion and we will have opened our eyes to a brighter world.

Hopefully, what I have suggested here will motivate us to improve our reading ability. I honestly believe that much of the future of the CNMI depends on the literacy level of its citizens. And the ability to understand the written word is the basis for coping with our future. We can and must control our destiny. When we muster a strong determination to do something, we can climb the tallest mountains, swim the biggest oceans, and most of all realize the greatness that lies within all of us. Let us open the gates to a better and brighter world. Am I sermonizing? Yes, damn it, I am. Reading is the gateway to success on the job and in life. Let's do it!

12 MONDAY, MARCH 11, 2013 SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian



Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. Northeast winds 10 to 20 mph.

.87° **▼** 76°



Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. Northeast winds 10 to 20 mph.

87° ▼76°



Partly cloudy with isolated showers.

▲87° ▼76°



Partly cloudy with

isolated showers.

▲ 87° ▼ **76°**

Yesterday's Satellite Image



Partly cloudy with

isolated showers.

▲87° ▼76°

Micronesia

			_
Guam and Rota	Cloudy	▲ 85	▼ 77
Palau	Mostly Sunny	▲ 86	▼77
Yap	Partly Cloudy	▲ 87	▼ 78
Chuuk	Partly Cloudy	▲ 84	▼80
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	▲ 85	▼ 80
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	▲ 85	▼ 80
Majuro	Showers	▲ 86	▼ 81

Around The Globe

Auckland	Mostly Sunny	▲ 76	▼ 63
Beijing	Sunny	▲ 56	₹29
Hong Kong	Sunny	▲ 73	▼ 67
Honolulu	Sunny	▲ 78	▼ 70
London	Mostly Cloudy	▲ 34	₹28
Los Angeles	Sunny	▲ 71	▼ 49
Manila	Partly Cloudy	▲ 91	₹79
Melbourne	Mostly Sunny	▲ 92	▼ 65
Miami	Partly Cloudy	▲ 77	▼67
New York	Mostly Cloudy	▲ 48	▼ 40
Osaka	Sunny	▲ 51	▼38
Paris	Cloudy	▲ 33	▼ 28
Pusan	Partly Cloudy	▲ 54	▼39
Rome	Thunderstorms	▲ 58	▼ 49
Salem	Mostly Cloudy	▲ 57	₹45
San Francisco	Sunny	▲ 64	₹48
Seoul	Sunny	▲ 50	₹28
Tokyo	Mostly Sunny	▲ 54	▼ 38

Washington, DC Mostly Cloudy ▲63 ▼47



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, SUNDAY, MARCH 10, 2013

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A near-equatorial trough runs southeastward from 2N130E to EQ145E. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms near the equator are south of a line from 4N130E to 1N145E. Scattered showers are southwest of Koror within 50 miles of a line from 7N131E to 5N135E. Trade-wind convergence is generating scattered showers across the Marshall Islands within 125 miles of a line from 6N168E to 6N180. A weak circulation northwest of Wake Island is near 22N162E. A shear line stretches southwestward from 20N163E across the Mariana Islands to end near 10N135E. Scattered showers are between 20N and 25N from 160E to 170E. Some clouds and patchy showers are along and up to 125 miles northwest of the shear line

Tides			Sur	rrise/Suns	et	Moonrise/Moonset			
Saipan H	arbor			Today	6:28 AM	6:27 PM	Today	5:38 AM	5:54 PM
2:17 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.0 Feet	Tuesday	6:27 AM	6:27 PM	Tuesday	6:21 AM	6:48 PM
8:37 AM	Today	High Tide:	2.0 Feet	Wednesday	6:26 AM	6:27 PM	Wednesday	7:03 AM	7:40 PM
2:45 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.5 Feet	Thursday	6:26 AM	6:27 PM	Thursday	7:45 AM	8:32 PM
8:22 PM	Today	High Tide:	2.0 Feet	Friday	6:25 AM	6:27 PM	Friday	8:28 AM	9:24 PM

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- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones,
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- ing of awards, team-building exercises, meetings are other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMU'T SARI Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- **TRÁVELOGUE** Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

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■ COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies

Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

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- otos should be original and not copyrighted. Contrib utors must have the right to allow the Saipan Tribune to publish the pictures. ■ Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of
- 800kb). ■ Must have complete details (who, what, where, when),
- the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months. ■ For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

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■ Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center

To check if contributions are 6397 235-2440 235-8747

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MARCH 8, 2013

DE	TUR	ES	ARRIVALS				
SAIPAN-GUA	M (GUM)		GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAI	N	
UA5070		5:25am	2, 4, 6, 7	UA 5069		3:35am	2, 4, 6, 7
UA5062	4:40am	5:30am	1, 3, 5	UA5071	7:05am	7:55am	Daily
UA5068	8:25am	9:15am	Daily	UA5073	9:50am	10:40am	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7
UA5074		12:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7	UA5075		2:35pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA5076		4:00pm	Daily	UA5077		6:25pm	Daily
UA5078		7:45pm	Daily	UA5079	8:20pm	9:10pm	Daily
UA5072	9:45pm	10:35pm	Daily				
				ROTA (ROP)	-CAIDAN		
				UA5062	3.35am	4:10am	1, 3, 5
				UA5038		11:30am	6
SAIPAN-NAR				NARITA (NR			
DL287		8:45am	Daily	DL298		3:00pm	Daily
DL285		9:15am	1, 3, 5, 7	DL286		12:15am+1	
DL297	4.Z5pIII	7:25pm	Daily	DL288	8.4UµIII	1:15am+1	Daily
SAIPAN-OSA	KA (KIX)		OSAKA (KIX)-SAIPAI	1	
0Z119	-	6:40am	Daily	0Z120	-	2:20am+1	Daily
			,		,		,
SAIPAN-BUS				BUSAN (PUS			
0Z608	3:10am	6:20am	1, 4, 5, 7	0Z607	9:00pm	1:50am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
SAIPAN-SEO	III /ICM			SEOUL (ICN)	-CAIDAA		
07606		6:00am	1	0Z603		2:20pm	Daily
0Z606		6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	0Z120	7.00aiii 7:10nm	2:20am+1	
076063		7:20am	1. 5	07605		1:00am+1	
0Z119		11:20am	Daily via KIX	0Z605		1:30am+1	
0Z604		7:10pm	Daily	0Z6053		2:10am+1	4.7
							4.
SAIPAN-SHA				SHANGHAI (-		
3U8648	6:00am	8:35am	1, 4, 5, 7	3U8647	10:30pm	4:30am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
SAIPAN-BEI.	IINC /DI	:V\		BEIJING (PE	:W_CAID	AM	
MU7108		: n<i>)</i> 7:40am	1, 5	MU7107		2:50am+1	A 7
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SAIPAN-GUA	NZHOU	(CAN)		GUANZHOU	(CAN)-S	AIPAN	
3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6	3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5
SAIPAN-VLA			-	VLADIVOSTO			4
XF1734	II:55aM	5:10pm	5	XF1733	8:00bш	12:05am+1	4
SAIPAN-MAN	IILA (MN	IL)		MANILA (MN	(L)-SAIP	AN	
0Z606/701		11:15am	1 via ICN	0Z704/603		2:20pm	Daily via ICN
0Z606/701	2:40am	11:15am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	DL172/288		1:15am+1	2, 4, 7 via NRT
			via ICN	DL172/288	8:00am	1:15am+1	1, 3, 5, 6
UA5070/191		9:55am	6 via GUM				via NRT
UA5062/191		9:55am	3 via GUM	UA190/5077	10:55am	,	3, 6 via GUM
DL287/173	6:00am	10:15pm	2, 4, 5, 7	UA190/5079	10:55am		3, 6 via GUM
DI 207/172	(.00am	10.25	via NRT	0Z702/605		1:00am+1	7 via ICN
DL287/173 UA5076/183		10:35pm 8:45pm	1, 3, 6 via NRT Daily via GUM	0Z702/605	12.304111	1:30am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
0Z604/703		11:00pm	Daily via ICN	PR110/UA5072	10:15nm	7:55am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7
UA5072/PR111		7:45am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7	T KITO, ONOUTE	io.iopiii	1.004111 1	via GUM
			via GUM	UA184/5071	10:55pm	7:55am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7
							via GUM
				UA184/5071	11:59pm	7:55am+1	2, 5 via GUM
CAIDAN HON	IC NUMO	(UPO)		በሀክራ አህክራ	/UVC). 4	CAIDAN	
SAIPAN-HON 0Z606/721		(HKG) 11:50am	1 via ICN	HONG KONG 0Z746/603		2:20pm	Daily via ICN
02606/721		11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	02746/605		2.20pm 1:00am+1	7 via ICN
0L000/1L1	L. TOUIII	ii.ovuiii	z, 3, 4, 3, 0, 1 via ICN	02722/605		1:30am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
UA5076/147	3:10pm	9:45pm	1, 5 via GUM	J, 000	vpiii	avvuiii I	via ICN
0Z604/749		11:00pm	Daily via ICN	UA180/5071	10:35pm	7:55am+1	1, 5 via GUM
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(6) and Sun			esday (2), Wed				

(6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; VLK: Vladivostok Air.

ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA F	requency	Airline	ETD	ETA F	requency
Guam-Rota				FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily	FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
Rota-Saipan	0.00	0.50	D '1	FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily	FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
Guam-Rota				FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily	FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
Rota-Saipan	17:50	18:20	Daily				,
Saipan-Rota				Tinian-Saipan			
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily	FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
Rota-Guam	10:20	10:45	Daily	FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
Saipan-Rota	.0.20		J U,	FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily	FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
Rota-Guam				FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily	FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
				FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
Saipan-Tinian				FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily	FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily	FRE 120	16:20	16:30	
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily				Daily
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily	FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily	FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily	FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily



NMI CRIME **STOPPERS**

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

■ Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone

■ *11 on any PTI cellular phone Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

McDonald's Saipan celebrates 20 years of 'loving it'

By CLARISSA V. DAVID clarissa_david@saipantribune.com REPORTER

McDonald's Saipan hosted its 20th Anniversary Appreciation Banquet last Saturday in celebration of an important milestone in the company's history and in recognition of corporate partners that have been integral to the success of Saipan's Golden Arches.

Close to 140 public officials, business leaders, and other dignitaries took part in Saturday evening's program held at the Royal Taga Ballroom of the Saipan World Resort in Susupe. Gov. Eloy S. Inos, Mangilao Mayor Nonito C. Blas of Guam, and McDonald's Guam executives Pacifico Martir and Annabelle Dancel led the toast for Joe and Marcia Ayuyu, the formidable couple behind the local franchise of the world's number one chain of fast food restaurants.

What began as a modest dream has led a long-time public servant to start up his own business and eventually become one of the most recognized and well-respected homegrown entrepreneurs in the Northern Marianas.

McDonald's Saipan president Joe Ayuyu recounted how he



CLARISSA V. DAVID

Joe and Marcia Ayuyu accept the International Association of Athletics Federation certificate of appreciation presented by IAAF representatives Robin Sapong and Ray Tebuteb.

did not let his humble beginnings and years of working in the public sector get in the way of his ambition to start up his own business, following the footsteps of other business leaders who have worked their way to the top.

"I tell myself that if they can do it, then perhaps I can do it as well and become successful at it one day," Joe Ayuyu said in a video presentation watched by an attentive audience.

When the McDonald's Corp. announced its plans to venture

in the region and were on the lookout for franchise owners on both Saipan and Guam, Joe Ayuyu turned in his application and went through a difficult selection process that saw him as one of the top two chosen candidates.

Through his hard work and after undergoing intensive training, Joe Ayuyu became the first franchise owner of McDonald's on Saipan, which officially opened its doors on island on March 18, 1993.

Inos congratulated Joe and Marcia Ayuyu and their family for their contributions to the island community in the last two decades, among which are providing employment opportunities, sponsoring training programs, consistently innovating its products and services, and promoting high standards of social responsibility through their donations to charitable causes.

"You continue to strive in the good and bad days. Thank you for never giving up on the CNMI for the past 20 years. The lieutenant governor and I and the people of the Commonwealth wish you more success in the future," Inos said in his brief remarks.

House Speaker Joseph Deleon Guerrero (IR-Saipan), for his part, described the Ayuyus as "responsible corporate partners" for their generous support to the Public School System, Saipan Little League, American Red Cross, and other local organizations.

It is the same generosity that prompted International Association of Athletics Federations to recognize McDonald's Saipan.

See MCDONALD'S on Next Page



CLARISSA V. DAVID

Marcia Ayuyu, standing second left, and daughter Mable, standing left, join the female staffers of McDonald's Saipan for a souvenir photo by the registration area.





CNMI Water Task Force INVITATION FOR BIDS



IFB13-GOV-087

Security Services for Water Task Force Warehouse

Governor Eloy S. Inos and Lt. Governor Jude U. Hofschneider, through the Water Task Force, are soliciting sealed Bids for Security Services for the Water Task Force Warehouse on Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The project Scope of Work will be available at the Office of the Director, Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower

Base, Saipan, on or after <u>March 11, 2013</u>.

This project is funded by a grant from the Office of Insular Affairs (OIA), Department of the Interior. The award of this

contract is contingent upon receipt of the project approval from OIA. The Contractor is required to comply with all CNMI

and applicable Federal laws including the Davis Bacon Act.

A mandatory Pre-Bid Conference is scheduled for 10:00 a.m. local time, March 22, 2013, at the CNMI Water Task

All questions regarding this IFB must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 pm, March 21, 2013, to Mr. Pedro

All questions regarding this IFB must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 pm, March 21, 2013, to Mr. Pedro Sasamoto, WTF Program Manager, facsimile number (670) 664-2279.

Bids must be sealed and marked "IFB13-GOV-087". For bidders within the CNMI, one (1) original and four (4) copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, no later than 2:00 p.m. local time, April 10, 2013. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their bid by submitting a Notice of Intent to Bid. Notices of Intent to Bid must be received by the Director of Procurement & Supply no later than 2:00 p.m. local time, April 10, 2013, and may be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515. For bidders located outside the CNMI, one (1) original and four (4) copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than April 10, 2013, and must be received no later than April 19, 2013. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly open and read at the Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, at 3:00 pm local time, **April 22. 2013**. However, if no Notices of Intent to bid were received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be opened at 3:00 pm local time on **April 10, 2013**.

The bid procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations. Preference is not available to local bidders in this procurement because its use is prohibited by the Federal law granting the funds for this project.

The CNMI reserves the right to reject any or all Bids and to waive any imperfections in any bid if to do so will be in the best interest of the CNMI. All Bids shall become the property of the CNMI government.

/s/ **ELOY S. INOS**Governor

Force Conference Room, 1316 Anatahan Dr., Capitol Hill, Saipan.

/s/ **HERMAN S. SABLAN**Director, Procurement & Supply

MCDONALD'S

From Page 13

Group representatives Ray Tebuteb and Robin Sapong presented the Ayuyus with a certificate of appreciation signed by IAAF president Lamine Diack for sponsoring the development of athletics among the island's youth.

"We had a few major spon-

sors but they left because of situations and opportunities. McDonald's Saipan, however, is still here and continues to be a part of our youth and family event orientations and activities and we're loving it," said Tebuteb.

Highlighting the event was the awarding of "outstanding" vendors and suppliers who have "gone above and beyond to keep our operations smoothly," said McDonald's Saipan's Natalie Mable Ayuyu. Representatives of Herman's Modern Bakery, Matson Navigation Company, Coca-Cola, and J.C. Tenorio Enterprises went on stage to receive their certificates and engraved acrylic model of the first McDonald's Restaurant built in Illinois in 1955 as a symbol of appreciation for their continued partnership with McDonald's Saipan over the years..

"We value the relationship that we have with each one of you and hope to continue working with you many years to come. We wouldn't be McDonald's without you," said the eldest daughter of Joe and Marcia.

In a surprise move that night, the Ayuyus also presented a \$1,000 donation each to Karidat Social Services executive director Angie V. Leon Guerrero, American Red Cross-NMI Chapter John Hirsh, and Commonwealth Cancer Association board treasurer Maggie Camacho.

Joe Ayuyu said McDonald's Saipan has long supported these chosen beneficiaries for the outstanding services they have provided within the community, expressing hope that their anniversary contribution to these organizations would help them in their quest to serve those who need it most.

Joe and Marcia Ayuyu led the cutting of the rectangular anniversary cake decorated with green icing, while guests were treated to a bountiful and delectable feast while listening to live music from Marvin Deleon Guerrero. All attendees took home a souvenir McDonald's glass tumbler, pen, and keychain.



PHOTOS BY CLARISSA V. DAVID Marcia Ayuyu hands the certificate of recognition to Annie Hayes and Ernie Lineses of Herman's Modern Bakery, one of the vendors awarded by McDonald's Saipan.



Joe Ayuyu presents the engraved acrylic model of the first McDonald's Restaurant built in Illinois in 1955 to a representative of Matson Navigation.



A Coca-Cola staffer accepts the award from Marcia Ayuyu as McDonald's Saipan accountant Marissa Obtinalla looks on.



Executive director Angie V. Leon Guerrero of Karidat Social Services listens as McDonald's Saipan president and owner Joe Ayuyu explains why the organization was one of the three chosen beneficiaries of a \$1,000 donation.



The Ayuyus pose for a photo with former Saipan Chamber of Commerce president Douglas Brennan and other guests.



The Ayuyu couple is flanked by some of the evening's guests, including Superior Court Associate Judge Kenneth Govendo, Bank of Guam vice president and CNMI regional manager Marcie Tomokane, and Annie Hayes of Herman's Modern Bakery.



The husband and wife tandem behind the success of McDonald's Saipan pose with a group photo at the table of House Speaker Joseph Deleon Guerrero and Saipan Mayor Donald Flores.



Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. chief executive officer Juan N. Babauta and Northern Marianas College president Sharon Hart, Ph.D., join the evening's celebration.



The Ayuyu family.



Joe and Marcia Ayuyu smile for the camera with some of the guests, including Karidat Social Services executive director Angie V. Leon Guerrero.



Marcia Ayuyu and McDonald's Guam representative Pacifico Martir are flanked by the female staffers of McDonald's Saipan.

SAIPAN TRIBUNE MONDAY, MARCH 11, 2013 **15**

Business

Job gains cut unemployment to 7.7 percent, four-year low

WASHINGTON (AP)—The American job market isn't just growing. It's accelerating.

Employers added 236,000 jobs in February and drove down the unemployment rate to 7.7 percent, its lowest level in more than four years. The gains signal that companies are confident enough in the economy to intensify hiring even in the face of tax increases and government spending cuts.

Last month capped a fourthmonth hiring spree in which employers have added an average of 205,000 jobs a month. The hiring has been fueled by steady improvement in housing, auto sales, manufacturing and corporate profits, along with record-low borrowing rates.

Before the spree, employers added an average of 154,000 jobs from July through October and only 108,000 from April through June.

"The recovery is gathering momentum," Paul Ashworth, an economist at Capital Economics, said in a note to clients.

The gains could boost consumer spending, adding momentum to the U.S. recovery and helping troubled economies in Europe and Asia.

The U.S. economy is forecast to grow a modest 2 percent this year. Growth will likely be held back by uncertainty about the federal budget, higher Social Security taxes and across-the-board government spending cuts that kicked in March 1. And unemployment remains high nearly four years after the end of the Great Recession, Roughly 12 million people remain out of work.

The unemployment rate declined in February from 7.9 percent in January mostly because more people found work. Another factor was that 130,000 people without jobs stopped looking for work last month. The government doesn't count them as unemployed.

The last time unemployment was lower was December 2008, when it was 7.3 percent.

The unemployment rate is calculated from a survey of households. The number of jobs gained is derived from a separate survey of employers.

Hiring would be rising even faster if governments weren't shrinking their workforces, as they have been for nearly four years. Governments cut 10,000 jobs in February.

Some \$44 billion in spending cuts kicked in last week after Congress failed to reach a budget deal. The cuts are expected to shave about a half-point from economic growth this year and lower total hiring by about 30,000 jobs a month from April through September, according to Moody's Analytics.

BP warns of rising costs from spill settlement

NEW ORLEANS (AP)—BP is warning investors that the price tag will be "significantly higher" than it initially estimated for its multibillion-dollar settlement with businesses and residents who claim the 2010 oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico cost them money.

The London-based oil giant estimated last year that it would spend roughly \$7.8 billion to resolve tens of thousands of claims covered by the settlement agreement. But in a regulatory filing this week, BPPLC said businesses' claims have been paid at much higher average amounts than it had anticipated.

The company also said it can't reliably estimate how much it will pay for unresolved business claims following a ruling Tuesday by the federal judge supervising the uncapped settlement. U.S District Judge Carl Barbier rejected BP's interpretation of certain settlement provisions.

Barbier upheld claims administrator Patrick Juneau's interpretation of settlement terms that govern how businesses' pre- and post-spill revenue and expenses—and the time periods for those dollar amounts—are used to calculate their awards.

BP had argued that Juneau's interpretation would lead to "absurd results" and "false positives," but the judge said the settlement agreement anticipated that "such results would sometimes occur.'

"Objective formulas, the possibility of 'false positives,' and giving claimants flexibility to choose the most favorable time periods are all consequences BP accepted when it decided to buy peace through a global, classwide resolution," Barbier wrote.

BP spokesman Geoff Morrell said the company believes the way Juneau is processing business economic loss claims is "contrary to the agreement."

"His approach has produced unjustified windfall payments to numerous business claimants," Morrell said in a statement, adding that BP will pursue "all available legal options" to challenge Barbier's decision.

BP already had revised its estimate for the total cost of the settlement before Barbier's ruling, saying earlier this year that it expected to pay \$8.5 billion instead of the \$7.8 billion it estimated when it first cut the deal.

Nation

Survey: Many conflicted on govt spending cuts



In this March 1, 2013, file photo President Barack Obama talks to reporters in the White House briefing room in Washington after his meeting with congressional leaders about the automatic spending cuts.

WASHINGTON (AP)—As President Barack Obama and lawmakers spar over huge federal deficits, they're confronted by a classic contradiction: Most Americans want government austerity, a survey shows, but they also want increased spending on a host of popular programs: education, crime fighting, health care, Social Security, the environment and more. Less for defense, space and foreign aid.

The newly released General Social Survey asked people whether they believe spending in specific categories is "too much," "too little" or "about right." It covers the public's shifting priorities from 1973, when Richard Nixon was president, through 2012 with Obama in the White House.

"Despite a dislike of taxes, more people have always favored increases in spending than cuts," wrote the survey's director, Tom W. Smith, of the independent research organization NORC at the University of Chicago.

While people's priorities shift over the years, they've not changed on one category. Foreign aid has been stuck firmly in last place since the survey began. Last year, 65 percent of those surveyed thought there was "too much," 25 percent checked "about right" and a slim 11 percent said "too little." The numbers are not much changed from 1973-when 73 percent said too much on foreign aid, 22 percent just right and 5 percent too little.

Various polls have consistently shown the public believes foreign aid is a far bigger slice of the spending pie than it actually is.

Foreign aid amounts to

loose change, hovering for years at 1 percent or less of the federal budget, compared with defense spending and "entitlement" programs like Social Security and Medicare. Those are among the biggest deficit drivers and a focal point in Washington's recent budget debates. The survey shows the public is largely opposed to cuts in entitlement programs but tilts toward cuts in the defense budget.

Source: Obama poised to pick Perez for Labor

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Barack Obama is poised to select Justice Department official Thomas Perez to be the next labor secretary, according to two people familiar with the deliberation process.

Perez' nomination to the Labor Department could come as early as Monday, the people familiar with the process said Saturday. They spoke on condition of anonymity because the official announcement has not yet been made. White House spokesman Matt Lehrich declined to comment.

Perez, 51, has led the Justice Department's Civil Rights Division since 2009 and previously served as Maryland's labor secretary. He is expected to have solid support from organized labor and the Hispanic community, which is eager to have Hispanic representation in Obama's cabinet.

Perez was the first Latino elected to the Montgomery County Council in Maryland, where he served from 2002 to 2006. If confirmed, he would replace Hilda Solis, who resigned in January to return to her native California.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Stringer leaving Sony in June, hands over to Hirai

TOKYO (AP)—Howard Stringer, who fought to bring a divided and struggling Sonv Corp. together as the Japanese electronics and entertainment company's first foreign president, is retiring as chairman in June. He announced his departure in New York in a speech at the Japan Society on Friday, which was confirmed by Tokyobased Sony on Sunday. His retirement will come at an annual general shareholders' meeting in June. Stringer, a Welsh-born American and 15-year employee at Sony, became president in 2005, when the once glorious maker behind the Walkman portable player was first starting to get slammed by the flashier Apple Inc. and the nimbler Samsung Electronics Co.

Thousands of Greeks protest planned gold mine

(AP)—More than 10,000 people have taken to the streets of Greece's second largest city to protest a planned gold mine they see as an environmental risk. Police blocked the crowd's march to the Canadian Consulate in Thessaloniki, but Saturday's protest took place and ended peacefully. Eldorado Gold Corp., based in Vancouver, Canada, has been granted the rights to the gold mine in Halkidiki peninsula, east of Thessaloniki. The company has established a camp employing 1,200 people and plans to begin digging soon. The issue has bitterly divided Halkidiki residents, with some claiming the mine will harm tourism and

release toxic substances, and others denying that and saying new jobs are crucial during Greece's severe economic crisis.

THESSALONIKI, Greece German state employees win 5.6 percent raise

BERLIN (AP)—Some 800,000 employees of Germany's state governments have won a pay increase totaling 5.6 percent over two years. The pay deal for employees including police officers, firefighters and workers at ministries in all but one of Germany's 16 states was concluded Saturday. It features a 2.65 percent pay rise backdated to Jan. 1, to be followed next January by a further 2.95 percent increase. That's above Germany's 1.5 percent annual inflation rate but well short of unions' initial demand for a 6.5 percent raise over one year.

Senators hush-hush as they craft immigration bill

WASHINGTON (AP)—The be released. The progress is hap-Sen. Charles Schumer's offices. They sit in arm chairs arranged in a circle and sip water or soft drinks as they debate temporary workers and border security. In a capital riven by partisanship and gridlock, they are determined to be the exception and actually get something done.

This is immigration reform's 'Gang of Eight." With them lies the best hope in years for overhauling the nation's byzantine immigration laws—and they know it. That's partly why they are, by all accounts, working amazingly well together as a selfimposed deadline approaches for their sweeping legislation to

eight senators meet in private pening even though the group inseveral times a week, alternating cludes some of the Senate's most between Sen. John McCain's and outsized personalities, failed and prospective presidential candidates, one lawmaker dogged by scandal and another facing a potential re-election challenge that could be complicated by his stance on immigration.

"I tell you what, this is one of the best experiences I've had. Everybody's serious, everybody's knowledgeable, they've been around the issue," said Sen. Lindsey Graham-R-S.C., who's up for re-election next year and facing a potential GOP primary challenge from the right. He said it's "sort of what I came up here to do-sit down with serious people to solve serious and hard problems."

16 MONDAY, MARCH 11, 2013 SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Asia

Malaysia detains 79 over Borneo invasion



This Saturday, March 9, 2013 photo released by Malaysia's Ministry of Defense, shows Filipino gunmen's weapons found at the area where a stand-off between Malaysian security forces and Filipino gunmen took place, at Tanduo village in Lahad Datu, Borneo's Sabah state, Malaysia.

KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia

(AP)—Malaysian police said Saturday that they had detained 79 suspects linked to Filipino intruders in Borneo as they intensify an operation to flush out members of a Filipino Muslim clan who took over a village last month.

The armed clansmen have caused political havoc for Malaysia and the neighboring Philippines by trying to stake a long-dormant royal territorial claim to Malaysia's sprawling, resource-rich state of Sabah in Borneo. Most of the Filipinos eluded capture in a coastal Sabah district filled with palm oil plantations and forested hills after Malaysian forces attacked them with airstrikes and mortar fire on Tuesday.

National police chief Ismail Omar said 79 men and women, held without trial under a security law, were being investigated for their links to the gunmen.

He said they were detained outside the conflict zone but didn't give further details. The detainees are believed to be informants or food suppliers to the gunmen, but it's unclear if they were Malaysians or Filipino nationals.

Ismail said a Filipino gunman was killed early Saturday after he tried to escape a police cordon, raising the death toll in the conflict to 61.

Representatives of the Filipino group have disputed the

casualty numbers provided by Malaysian authorities. The main contention is over 31 Filipinos whom police and the military said were fatally shot Thursday. The clansmen's representatives in the Philippines insisted there had been no deaths on their side that day, and neither side has managed to conclusively prove their conflicting claims.

The clansmen are led by a brother of Jamalul Kiram III, who claims to be the sultan, or hereditary ruler, of the southern, predominantly Muslim province of Sulu in the Philippines. Malaysia's government has rejected a call by Kiram for a cease-fire and urged the gunmen to surrender unconditionally.

China issues plan to streamline government

BEIJING (AP)—China announced plans Sunday to streamline government ministries, doing away with the powerful Railways Ministry and creating a super-agency to regulate the media and realigning other bureaucracies in a bid to boost efficiency.

The plan introduced to the rubber-stamp national legislature is being pushed by the newly installed Communist Party leadership and reflects its priorities to reduce waste and address quality of life issues for a more prosperous, demanding society. Among the changes, the

corruption-plagued Railways Ministry will be split, its regulatory responsibilities going to the Transport Ministry and its operations to a commercial entity. The food and drug agency will see a boost in authority to try to end the safety scandals that have been a source of public anger, and two censorship arms, one for broadcasters and one for print media, will be merged.

The restructuring, the seventh since China began market reforms 30 years ago, marks the latest periodic attempt to reduce government meddling in the economy and society. Despite

the effort, the government's role in the economy and the power of state companies have grown over the past decade, often to the detriment of private and foreign companies, which face a welter of industrial and other policies that have raised barriers to success.

This time, the streamlining plan includes guidelines to restrict and better define the central government's responsibilities, limiting its issuing of permits for projects, the setting of standards and other policies that have slowed decision-making.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Suspected US drone kills militant in NW **Pakistan**

PESHAWAR, Pakistan (AP)— Pakistani intelligence officials say a suspected U.S. missile strike has killed a foreign militant in country's northwest near Afghan border. Three officials say a missile hit the militant as he was riding a horse in the town of Datta Khel in North Waziristan. The officials, who spoke on condition of anonymity because they

were not authorized to talk to the media, say the nationality of the militant is not yet known.

Afghan leader alleges **US**, Taliban are colluding

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)— Afghan President Hamid Karzai is accusing the Taliban and the U.S. of working in concert to convince Afghans that violence will worsen if foreign troops leave. Karzai says two deadly suicide bombings on Saturday show the insurgent group is conducting attacks "at the service of America" to help show that international forces will still be needed to keep the peace after their current combat mission ends in 2014. Karzai, who spoke Sunday during a nationally televised speech about the state of Afghan women, is currently negotiating a pact with the U.S. for the long-term presence of American forces.

World

Egyptian soccer fans go on a rampage

CAIRO (AP)—Egyptian soccer fans rampaged through the heart of Cairo on Saturday, furious about the acquittal of seven police officers while death sentences against 21 alleged rioters were confirmed in a trial over a stadium melee that left 74 people dead.

The case of the Feb. 1, 2012 stadium riot in the city of Port Said at the northern tip of the Suez Canal has taken on political undertones not just because police faced allegations of negligence in the tragedy but also because the verdicts were announced at a time when Egypt is in the grip of the latest and most serious bout of political turmoil in the two years since Hosni Mubarak's ouster.

Saturday's verdicts also were handed down against the backdrop of an unprecedented wave of strikes by the nation's police force over demands for better working conditions and anger over what many believe are attempts by President Mohammed Morsi and his Muslim Brotherhood to take control of the police force.

Tensions over the riot which began when supporters of Port Said's Al-Masry club set upon fans of Cairo's Al-Ahly club after the final whistle of a league game that the home team won—have fueled some of the deadliest street violence in months. Police guarding the stadium, meanwhile, faced allegations ranging from not searching people entering the stadium to failing to intervene to stop the bloodshed.

Shortly after the verdict was announced Saturday, angry fans of Cairo's Al-Ahly club who had gathered in the thousands outside the team's headquarters in central Cairo went on a rampage, torching a police club nearby and storming Egypt's soccer federation headquarters before setting it ablaze.

The twin fires sent plumes of thick black smoke billowing out over the Cairo skyline, prompting Defense Minister Abdel-Fattah el-Sissi to dispatch two army helicopters to extinguish the fires.

At least five people were injured in the protests over the verdict, a Health Ministry official told the MENA state news agency.

Some demonstrators in Port Said also burnt tires on the city's dock to prevent vessels from coming in and released speedboats into traffic lanes of the Suez Canal in attempts, foiled by the navy, to disrupt shipping in the vital waterway linking the Red Sea to the Mediterranean.

A spokesman for the Suez Canal Authority said shipping was not affected and 41 vessels transited the waterway on Saturday.

General unrest also continued elsewhere in the Egyptian capital, which has seen unrelenting demonstrations and clashes between security forces and an opposition that accuses Morsi of trying to monopolize power in the hands of his Islamist allies.

Nigerian extremists claim they killed 7 hostages

KADUNA, Nigeria (AP)—A breakaway Islamic extremist group said Saturday it had killed seven foreigners who its members kidnapped from northern Nigeria, according to an online message purportedly from the group.

The message, identified as coming from Ansaru, could not be immediately verified by The Associated Press, though it included photographs the group claimed showed the dead, who were kidnapped from a construction company compound in February. Those kidnapped included four Lebanese citizens and one each from Britain, Greece and Italy - all employees of Setraco, a Lebanese construction company with an operation in Bauchi state, officials said.

Two Nigerian military spokesmen declined to immediately comment when reached by the AP, while a presidential spokesman and a spokeswoman for the country's domestic spy service could not be immediately reached. In a statement later Saturday, the British Foreign Office said it was "urgently investigating" the killings claimed by the group.

The message, posted to an Islamic extremist website Saturday, said Ansaru members killed the hostages after British warplanes were reported to have been seen in the northern Nigerian city of Bauchi by local journalists. However, the reports referenced in the online statement actually referred to the airplanes being seen at the international airport in Abuja, Nigeria's capital.

"As a result of this operation, the seven hostages were killed," the group said in the statement. It said a video of the killings would be posted online. An online image accompanying the posting appeared to show a gunman standing over dead bodies.

Ansaru said its decision to kill the hostages was also sparked by a statement immediately after the abduction from Nigerian President Goodluck Jonathan who said the government would do anything in its power to free the hostages. The group said security forces had recently arrested an unspecified number of its members.

All eyes on Capriles as Venezuela election set

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP)—Opposition leader Henthat Venezuela's elections commission has called an April 14 vote to pick a successor to the late Hugo Chavez.

The 40-year-old state governor is expected to announce on Sunday whether he will run against Chavez's hand-picked successor, who's a heavy favorite amid lingering sympathy for the charismatic president.

The stakes are high: A defeat for Capriles just six months after he lost the presidential vote to Chavez would likely finish his political career. If he waits, a Chavista government might prove inept and give him a better shot in a later election.

On a personal Twitter page that bore all the rah-rah adornrique Capriles must make what ments of a campaign site, could be the most important Capriles wrote Saturday afterdecision of his political life, now noon: "I am analyzing the declaration of the (electoral commission setting the date) and in the next hours I will talk to the country about my decision."

Whoever the opposition runs, analysts say the election is the government's to lose. They also predict the next five weeks will up the nasty, heated rhetoric that began even before Chavez's death Tuesday after a nearly twoyear fight with cancer.

Nicolas Maduro, who was named Chavez's vice president after the October election, was sworn in as this oil-rich country's acting leader Friday night and is expected to be the ruling party candidate. Opposition

critics have called Maduro's ascension unconstitutional, noting the charter designates the National Assembly president as acting leader if a president-elect cannot be sworn in.

Angel Alvarez, a political science professor at the Central University of Venezuela, said Capriles is well aware that "the dice are loaded in favor of the government's candidate."

That means sitting out the race would make sense for Capriles, said David Smilde, an analyst with the U.S.-based think tank the Washington Office on Latin America.

"If he says he doesn't want to run I could totally understand that," Smilde said. "He is likely going to lose and if he loses this election he's probably going to

SAIPAN TRIBUNE MONDAY, MARCH 11, 2013 **17**

Focus

NYC soda size rule eyed from coffee shops to clubs

By JENNIFER PELTZ
ASSOCIATED PRESS

EW YORK
(AP)—At barbecue joints, coffee counters and bottle-service nightclubs, a coming clampdown on big, sugary soft drinks is beginning to take shape on tables and menus in a city that thrives on eating and going out.

Some restaurants are ordering smaller glasses. Dunkin' Donuts shops are telling customers they'll have to sweeten and flavor their own coffee. Coca-Cola has printed posters explaining the new rules, and a bowling lounge is squeezing carrot and beet juice as a potential substitute for pitchers of soda at family parties—all in preparation for the nation's first limit on the size of sugar-laden beverages, set to take effect Tuesday.

Some businesses are holding off, hoping a court challenge nixes or at least delays the restriction. But many are getting ready for tasks including reprinting menus and changing movie theaters' supersized soda-and-popcorn deals.

At Brother Jimmy's BBQ, customers still will be able to order margaritas by the pitcher, cocktails in jumbo Mason jars and heaping plates of ribs. But they'll no longer get 24-ounce tumblers of soda, since the new rule bars selling non-diet cola in cups, bottles or pitchers bigger than 16 ounces.

"Everything we do is big, so serving it in a quaint little 16-ounce soda cups is going to look kind of odd," owner Josh Lebowitz said. Nonetheless, he's ordered 1,000 of them for the North Carolina-themed restaurant's five Manhattan locations, rather than take on a fight that carries the threat of \$200 fines.

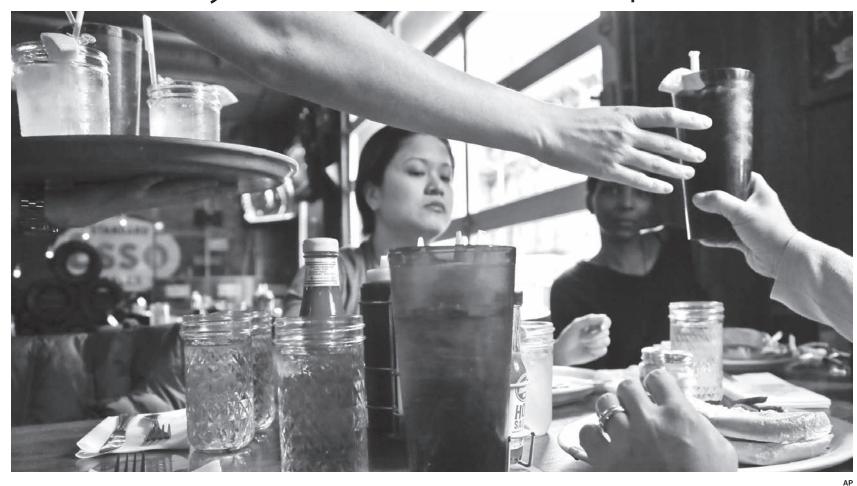
"As long as they keep allowing us to serve beer in glasses larger than 16 ounces, we'll be OK," Lebowitz reasoned.

Beer drinkers can breathe easy: The restriction doesn't apply to alcoholic beverages, among other exemptions for various reasons. But it does cover such beverages as energy drinks and sweetened fruit smoothies.

City officials say it's a pioneering, practical step to staunch an obesity rate that has risen from 18 to 24 percent in a decade among adult New Yorkers. Health officials say sugar-filled drinks bear much of the blame because they carry hundreds of calories—a 32-ounce soda has more than a typical fast-food cheeseburger—without making people feel full.

The city "has the ability to do this and the obligation to try to help," the plan's chief cheerleader, Mayor Michael Bloomberg, said last month.

Critics say the regulation won't make a meaningful difference in diets but will unfairly hurt some businesses while sparing others. A customer who can't get a 20-ounce Coke at a sandwich shop could still buy a Big Gulp at a 7-Eleven, for instance, since many convenience stores and supermarkets



Tien Ha, left, and her friends are served 24-ounce and 16-ounce beverages at Brother Jimmy's BBQ restaurant, Friday, March 8, 2013, in New York.

are beyond the city's regulatory reach.

New Yorkers are divided on the restriction. A Quinnipiac University poll released last week found 51 percent opposed it, while 46 percent approved.

"I don't know if the state should be our surrogate parent," Peter Sarfaty, 71, said as he drank a diet cola with lunch in Manhattan this week. "You get the information out there, but to tell people what they can or can't do? As if it's going to stop them."

Business organization ranging from the massive American Beverage Association to a local Korean-American grocers' group have asked a judge to stop the size limit from taking effect until he decides on their bid to block it altogether. He hasn't ruled on either request.

Many businesses aren't taking chances in the meantime.

Dominic Fazio, the manager of a Penn Station pizzeria, has stopped ordering 32-ounce and 24-ounce cups, though he calls the regulation "ridiculous."

"But I guess the law is the law, right?" said Fazio, who put up an explanatory sign Coca-Cola Co. provided. The Atlanta-based soda giant said in a statement that helping small businesses prepare was "the responsible thing to do."

Managers at rapper Jay-Z's 40-40 Club were busy this week making sure they wouldn't get in hot water over carafes of soda and other sweet mixers that accompany bottle service, spokeswoman Lauren Menache said. The carafes are slightly bigger than 16 ounces; city lawyers have indicated such containers should pass muster.

Dunkin' Donuts shops, meanwhile, have set out colorful fliers explaining the complex rules surrounding coffee.

Lots of lattes are exempt because they're more than half milk. And it's OK for customers to load their large and extra-large coffees with all the sugar or sweet flavoring they want. But the chain will no longer do it for them, for fear of running over the limit of roughly three calories per ounce.

Starbucks, meanwhile, believes most of its products won't be affected and isn't making any immediate changes, spokeswoman Linda Mills said.

Even some businesses that specialize

in big sodas aren't making moves yet—in light of the lawsuit and the city's pledge not to impose fines until June. Until then, violations would just spur a notice.

At Dallas BBQ, "Texas-size" 20-ounce sodas are staying for now, said Eric Levine, one of the directors.

Switching to 16 ounces would mean ordering roughly 10,000 new glasses

for the New York-based company's 10 locations, including a Times Square spot that seats 1,000 people. And customers wouldn't feel they were getting the same deal: double the soda for little more than the price of the 10-ounce size, Levine said.

The rule's effects may be particularly pronounced at movie theaters, where belly-buster sodas are as familiar as coming attractions. Big beverages also account for about 10 percent of profits, according to court papers.

"People just like that comfort, while they're sitting there—to make sure they have enough to drink for the whole movie," Russell Levinson, the general manager of Movieworld, mused this week.

The family-owned theater sells soda in 20-ounce bottles and 44-, 32-, 22-, and 12-ounce cups. The theater is looking at getting 16-ounce cups, considering two-drink and refill specials and retooling all its drink-and-popcorn combination offers, Levinson said.

Some businesses, though, are adapting to the new rule with gusto.

At Frames Bowling Lounge, a Manhattan spot that mixes bowling with an upscale bar, the families who pack the lanes on weekend days will no longer be offered pitchers of soda as part of a party package, executive general manager Ayman Kamel said.

Instead, they can get individual, eight-ounce cups of soda—or pitchers of the low-sugar, house-made juices that he and staffers spent an afternoon tasting this week. They experimented with such options as carrot, beet and mint-and-citrus.

"It's going to cost a little bit more money, but nothing is more valuable than having freshly squeezed juice available for our clients," he said. "We're taking advantage of the situation to promote the good side—healthy options."



A Coca-Cola poster about the city's new beverage ban is displayed at a pizza shop, Friday, March 8, 2013, at New York's Penn Station.

18 MONDAY, MARCH 11, 2013 SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Health & Fitness

Cash can bribe dieters to lose weight, study finds

a workplace wellness program. Half

were given weight-loss counseling,

monthly weigh-ins and a three-month

Do more women need diabetes care when pregnant?

WASHINGTON (AP)—A change in testing could nearly triple the number of women diagnosed with diabetes during pregnancy, but would catching milder cases help mother or baby? A government panel is urging more research to find that out before doctors make the switch.

Gestational diabetes—the kind that strikes during pregnancy—is a growing problem. More women are getting it as they wait until their 30s or later to have a baby, and as they increasingly begin their pregnancies already overweight.

This is one of the most common complications of pregnancy, and just about every woman gets checked for it. That's because if mom's high blood sugar isn't controlled, the fetus can grow too large, leading to C-sections and early deliveries.

There are other problems, too: Mom can get dangerous high blood pressure; the baby can be born with low blood sugar; the baby's risk of obesity in childhood is increased. And while this kind of diabetes usually disappears when the baby's born, the mother is left with another risk. Months or years later, half of women who had it wind up developing full-fledged Type 2 diabetes.

Doctors today diagnose gestational diabetes in about 5 percent to 6 percent of U.S. pregnancies, or about 240,000 a year, according to experts convened this week by the National Institutes of Health.

Most U.S. doctors use a two-step testing method. But now there's a push for doctors to switch to a simpler one-step test that's used in other parts of the world.

The one-step approach, backed by the American Diabetes Association and World Health Organization, isn't just about the convenience of getting diagnosed in one doctor visit or two. It also would lower the blood sugar threshold for diagnosing the condition.

"The implications of this are very, very large, and there are so many unanswered questions," said Dr. Catherine Spong of the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development.

On Wednesday, the NIH-appointed panel agreed, and said many more pregnant women would be classified with gestational diabetes—15 to 20 percent—if doctors widely adopted the one-step approach.

The more aggressive approach treats milder cases with diet and exercise, not medication. But that's still a lot of women who would get extra medical care, such as nutritionist visits and doctor checks of their blood sugar and their baby's growth, not to mention uncertainty about whether C-sections would increase.

By MARILYNN MARCHIONE

AP CHIEF MEDICAL WRITER

illpower apparently can be bought. The chance to win or lose \$20 a month enticed dieters in a yearlong study to drop an average of 9 pounds—four times more weight than others who were not offered dough to pass up the doughnuts.

Many employers, insurers and Internet programs dangle dollars to try to change bad habits like smoking or not exercising, but most studies have found this doesn't work very well or for very long.

The new study, done with Mayo Clinic employees, was the longest test yet of financial incentives for weight loss. Doctors think it succeeded because it had a mix of carrots and sticks—penalties for not losing weight, multiple ways to earn cash for succeeding, and a chance to recoup lost money if you fell off the "diet wagon" and later repented.

Incentives are "not like training wheels where people learn healthy habits and then will continue them on their own"—you have to keep them up for them to work, said one study leader, Dr. Steve Driver of Mayo in Rochester, Minn.

And if you're looking to set up a system like this at work or among friends, the key is to make it self-sustaining, Driver said. The Mayo one did that by having people who didn't lose weight put penalties into a fund that paid rewards to those who did.

It's also a good idea to make people pony up in advance. One woman flew into a tizzy when she stepped on a scale at a weigh-in and was told she'd have to pay.

"She headed for the door" but later came back and paid, Driver said. "People in Minnesota are pretty honest."

Driver will discuss the study this weekend at an American College of Cardiology conference in San Francisco. The group released results Thursday. Mayo paid for the study and Driver owns stock in Gympact, a company with an Internet program that gives financial incentives for exercising.

The diet study involved 100 obese employees at Mayo Clinic but was not

Healthy Living

gym membership. The others had those things plus financial incentives.

The aim was to lose 4 pounds a month up to a goal that depended on their starting weight. If they failed, they

their starting weight. If they failed, they paid \$20 into a kitty. If they succeeded, they got a voucher to collect \$20 when the study ended. Part of the kitty was used to pay the rewards. The rest was put into a lottery that anyone could win, whether they had made their weightloss goals or not.

"People saw that if they stuck with it, they had a chance at winning more than they had lost," Driver said.

Participants in the financial incentives group also earned \$10 a month and lottery "tickets" for coming to monthly weigh-ins and texting their weights to study leaders each week, said Dr. Don Hensrud, preventive medicine chief at Mayo. So people could have lost as much as \$240 or won as much as \$360, plus what built

up in the lottery fund.

After a year, 27 of the 50 financial incentive participants came out ahead moneywise. About 62 percent of them completed the study versus 26 percent of the other group. The incentives group lost a little more than 9 pounds on average, compared to 2.3 pounds for the others.

The results are promising, but people may need to lose more than 9 pounds to make a big difference in health, said Dr. Kevin Volpp, director of the University of Pennsylvania's Center for Health Incentives and Behavioral Economics.

"There's been an explosion of interest in this" and 86 percent of large employers now provide incentive programs like this, he said.

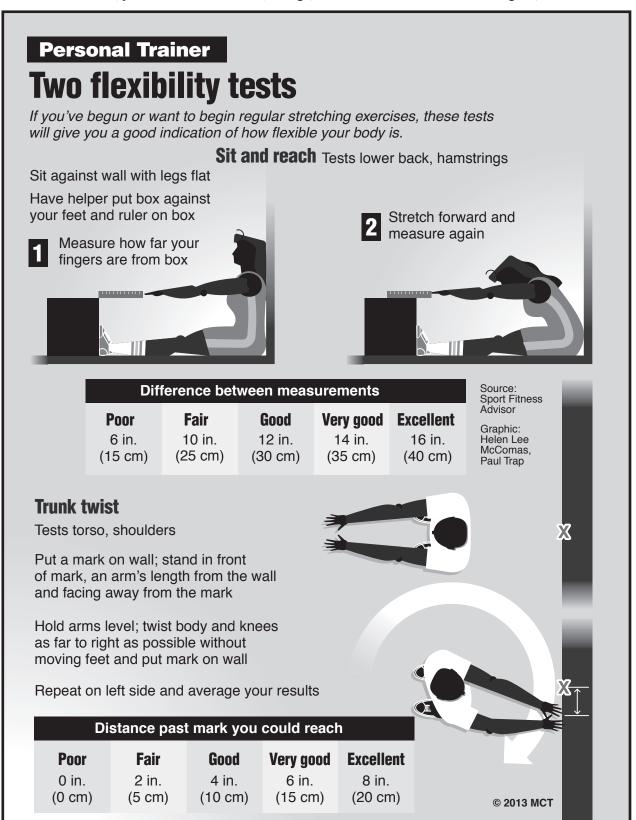
The cash was a big motivator for one study participant—Audrey Traun, 29, a lab training specialist who dropped 40 pounds, from 215 pounds to 175.

"I was impressed. I didn't think I was quite capable of that," said Traun, who lives in Kellogg, Minn. As the study went on, though, the cash became less important, and "it was actually more motivating to see my progress—pounds lost and how my clothes were fitting," she said.

Traun used the nearly \$400 she earned in the study on a family vacation.

In England, there was big enthusiasm a few years back for campaigns using cash or gift certificates to convince people to make healthier choices, like getting vaccinated, quitting smoking and losing weight. But after a few limited trials, the programs have mostly petered out. The most successful were those that offered pregnant women vouchers if they stopped smoking; several of those programs are still in place.

"You have to prove these schemes work otherwise it's just money down the drain," said Eleni Mantzari, who studies financial incentives in health at King's College London. People often revert to unhealthy habits once the financial motivation is gone, she said.



Dark chocolate Research suggests that eating moderate amounts of dark chocolate may protect your cardiovascular system. Talk about flavanoids Dark chocolate is rich in these natural antioxidants that fight cell damage; avoid candies with extra

natural antioxidants that fight cell damage; avoid candies with extra fatty ingredients, such as caramel or marshmallow

Source: Cleveland Clinic © 2013 MG



SAIPAN TRIBUNE MONDAY, MARCH 11, 2013 **19**

Life & Style

Bieber resumes tour after scuffle, health problems

LONDON (AP)—It's been a oxygen, and had to be briefly rough week for Justin Bieber: Getting booed for being late, struggling to breathe mid-performance and fainting backstage, then caught on camera clashing with paparazzi.

But the 19-year-old pop sensation appeared to have recovered Friday for his final concert in London, singing and dancing to thousands of adoring fans at the O2 Arena.

Earlier Friday, the star made headlines when he got into an altercation with insult-hurling paparazzi, lashing out at a photographer with a stream of expletives as he was restrained by minders.

"Ahhhhh! Rough morning. Trying to feel better for this show tonight but let the paps get the best of me," the singer posted on Twitter soon after the altercation with the photographer, which took place as he got into a car earlier Friday. The scuffle was captured on video by Channel 5 News and widely broadcast by Britain's media.

"Sometimes when people r shoving cameras in your face all day and yelling the worst thing possible at u...well I'm human. Rough week," he wrote on the social networking site.

The clash came just hours after Bieber said he was "getting better" following breathing problems he suffered during the previous night's concert. The star took a short break to go

hospitalized for a check-up.

A spokesman for the O2 Arena said Bieber was treated backstage during Thursday's concert after becoming short of breath, but recovered and finished his set.

"He was treated by our team of medics and after further examination they didn't find anything more serious or worrying.'

A spokeswoman for Bieber said he was feeling "a little under the weather." She demanded anonymity to discuss the star's condition

Bieber later posted a shirtless photo of himself in a hospital bed, saying he was getting better and listening to Janis Joplin. Before that on Twitter he thanked "everyone pulling me thru tonight."

"Best fans in the world," he wrote. "Figuring out what happened. Thanks for the love."

Video footage from the concert shows Bieber appearing to fade during a performance of his up-tempo hit, "Beauty and a Beat." He slows down, puts a hand to his head then bends over, resting his hands on knees before walking slowly to the back of the stage.

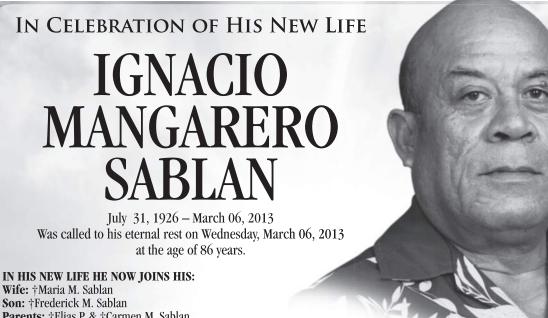
The AP spoke to 18-year-old journalism student Prithvi Pandya, who shot the footage, to confirm its authenticity.

"When he started 'Beauty and a Beat' you could see he was struggling," said Pandya, who was near the front of the backstage, where he was given crowd. "He took lots of drinks of water, that seemed unusual, and he was really sweaty, sweating a helluva lot.

"Toward the end of it, he went backstage. We didn't see him fainting. They brought on dancers to entertain, and I knew something was wrong at that point."

In this Sept. 30, 2012 file photo, Justin Bieber performs at the MGM Grand Garden Arena in Las





Parents: †Elias P. & †Carmen M. Sablan

Parents-in-law: †Joaquin P. & †Emiliana S. Villagomez

HIS MEMORIES WILL FOREVER LIVE IN THE HEARTS OF HIS:

Children and Grandchildren

Oscar M. & Marcia E. Sablan (Becky & Emery, Antonio & Stacy, Mariano & Ashley, Nicolas & Mary Beth, &, Carmela & Patrick)

Ernest M. & Elizabeth C. Sablan (Sonny & Belinda, Eric & Therese, John Peter & Nicole, & Ernest Jr.

Eleanor S. & †Herman Cruz (Yvonne & Rodney, Gordon & Marlene, Geoffrey & Jennifer, Yuline & Kelvin Yvette & Jose, Gary & Doris, Yolanda & Luis)

Jeanette S. & Eleuterio Mesa (Irene, Alma & Sang, Nalene, Katherin, & Annale Preuc) **Esther S**. & Michael Fleming (Chancie, Colleen, Michael & Thomas)

Felixberto M. & Cathy I. Sablan (Jared Sablan & Dee Cunanan, Sean Sablan & Liz Beth, Justin & Jadaine, & Seth & Gina)

Louise C. Concepcion / William Ada/†Joseph R. Concepcion (Frances & Francis Taimanao, Keith, Joanna, Shannette, Aileen & Lee, & Naomi & Jordon)

Herbert M. & Kelly Sablan (Brandon, Sarah, Samantha & Colton)

Victoria S. & Brien Sers Nicholas (Brien Jr. & Melissa, Brandon & Cinnabun, Cameron, Efren, & Jalen)

Elizabeth S. & James Ada (Jamie & Benedict & Alexia)

Agnes M. Sablan Carlos M. Sablan & Michelle Maloney (Magdalena & Carlos Jr.)

April S. & Glenn Camacho (Vicasha, Jose II, & Lexie Lynn)

Reared Children: (Michael S. Torres & Shoji Masuda)

Caregivers: (Emily M. Dionora, Benette, Julie Manacmul, & Jerry)

Brothers, Sisters & Spouses †Maria S. & †William S. Reyes

†Magdalena & †Francisco Manahane, & †Juan Del Rosario

†Mariano & †Mariana Sablan David & Rita C. Sablan

Mercedes M. Sablan

Rudolfo M. & Rosalia T. Sablan †Henry & Luisa R. Sablan

Reared Parents

Ana L./†Pablo Igitol **Reared Brothers /Sisters**

(Pedro L. Igitol & †Margarita M. Igitol , & Matilde C. Igitol, David L. & Lydia D. Igitol, Delfina I. & Stanley Russel, Martin L. & Marlene Igitol, Delisa I. & Ken Kato, & Rosa Igitol/Antonio Rogolofoi)

Brothers & Sisters In-Law $(\dagger Carlos\ C.\ Magarero,\ \dagger Pedro\ \&\ \dagger Kiyoko\ Kihleng\ ,\dagger Emiko\ M.\ \&\ \dagger Prens\ Emilios,\ \dagger Manuel\ \&\ \dagger Rosalia\ Tenorio,\ \dagger Tomas\ S.$ Villagomez & Prudenciana, Matilde V. & †Lorenzo I. Deleon Guerrero)

He will be missed by numerous aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces, nephews, and friends.

Daily Mass of Intention is offered at 11:45 a.m. and Holy Rosary is prayed at 07:00 p.m. at Kristo Rai Church.

Funeral Services will be held on Thursday, March 14, 2013. Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 10:00 a.m. at Mount Carmel Cathedral followed by Interment Services at Chalan Kanoa Cemetery where He will be at a peaceful rest.

PLEASE JOIN US IN PRAYERS

Children and Families

Leo DiCaprio says on-screen violence does not deter him

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)— Leonardo DiCaprio says filming violent scenes like in "Django Unchained" doesn't deter him from wanting his movies to be great art.

The bloody revenge film about slavery before the U.S. Civil War has fueled some of

the debate about whether Hollywood shows too much on-screen violence. DiCaprio portrays a ruthless plantation owner encountered by a freed slave and bounty hunter (Ja- DiCaprio mie Foxx and Christoph Waltz).

"My philosophy has kind of always been the same: Pain is temporary, film is forever," DiCaprio said Thursday in South Korea.

"You do everything you possibly can, you give it your all, all of your focus, and hopefully you come out with, if all the elements mixed together correctly, you come out with a great piece of art," he said. "To me, cinema is the great modern art form."

Director Quentin Tarantino, whose graphically violent filmography also includes "Pulp Fiction" and "Inglourious Basterds," has taken the long view on "Django" as well, noting films become less contro-

versial as they age.

The film won two Academy Awards last month, supporting actor for Waltz and original screenplay for Tarantino.

DiCaprio spoke at a news conference and attended

the film's red-carpet premiere in Seoul. Mobbed by fans snapping pictures of him on their phones, DiCaprio said it was an incredible welcome for his first trip to South Korea and he was sure to return.

"Django Unchained" opened last weekend in Japan, and it opens in South Korea and Singapore on March 21.



Lucas says 'Star Wars' trio returning for new film

the Force is still strong with Harrison Ford, Mark Hamill and Carrie Fisher.

In an interview posted online Thursday, George Lucas said the trio from the original "Star

NEW YORK (AP)—It appears Wars" trilogy will reprise their VII" film in advance of Lucasiconic roles of Hans Solo, Luke Skywalker and Princess Leia in the new "Star Wars" film.

Lucas told Bloomberg Businessweek that all three were signed for the new "Episode

Demi Moore seeks spousal support from Ashton Kutcher



In this Jan. 11, 2011 file photo, actor Ashton Kutcher, left, and actress Demi Moore arrive at the "No Strings Attached" Los Angeles Premiere at Regency Village Theatre in Westwood, Calif.

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Demi Moore is seeking spousal support from estranged husband Ashton Kutcher.

The actress states in a court filing Thursday that she also wants the "Two and a Half Men" star to pay her attorney's fees in the divorce proceedings

Kutcher filed for divorce in December, more than a year after Moore announced the martake a position in his filings on whether he should pay Moore any spousal support.

The couple was married in September 2005, and they have no children together.

Kutcher didn't specify when the couple separated, but Moore listed Nov. 17, 2011, as the breakup date.

Moore publicly announced the couple's breakup that day, but until Thursday had not filed any divorce paperwork.

film's \$4 billion purchase by Disney.

"We had already signed Mark and Carrie and Harrison—or were pretty much in the final stages of negotiation," Lucas said.

He added: "Maybe I'm not supposed to say that. I think they want to announce that with some big whoop-de-do."

In an interview posted Wednesday with Florida's Palm Beach Illustrated, Fisher said that she'll be coming back as Princess Leia.

Disney's Lucasfilm was coy in response. In a statement, a spokesperson for the company said, "George couldn't say whether they were signed or not and neither can we. As Yoda said, 'Always in motion is the future.' Stay tuned."

The Walt Disney Co. is producing a new "Star Wars" trilogy to take place after Lucas' original three space epics. J.J. Abrams is directing the first film. The 70-year-old Ford, the 61-year-old Hamill and the 56-year-old Fisher are expected to play smaller, supporting

A representative for Ford declined to comment. Hamill's representatives didn't immediately return requests for comment.

'Teen's dad is Jordan, not woman's ex'

ATLANTA (AP)—A lawyer for a woman who says Michael Jordan fathered her teenage son is attacking the basketball hall of famer's allegation that her exhusband has been established as boy's dad.

Pamela Smith last month sued Jordan and asked that he take a paternity test and pay child support. Jordan has said he's not the father and filed motion to have her lawsuit dismissed.

A lawyer for Jordan said in a court filing last week that Smith's divorce filings established her exhusband as the teen's father. The response also accused Smith of trying to get child support from more than one person.

Smith's lawyer, Randy Kessler, says the ex-husband hasn't paid child support and hasn't been involved in the teen's life.

A hearing is scheduled for Tuesday.

Jessica Simpson expecting a baby boy

LOS ANGELES (AP)—This time, it will be a boy for Jessica Simpson and fiance Eric

Simpson revealed on "Jimmy Kimmel Live!" Wednesday that she is expecting a baby boy. She and Johnson are already parents of a daughter, Maxwell, who was born in May.

Simpson announced in December that Maxwell would be a big sister, but she hadn't revealed the gender of her new baby.

She didn't plan to reveal it Wednesday, either. She told Kimmel that she hadn't been feeling well during her second pregnancy, adding, "I never knew a wiener could actually make me nauseous.

She followed up by saying she "couldn't believe" she "just told the world" she's having a boy.

Older friends sharing time are sharing kisses as well

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

DEAR ABBY: I am a semi-retired widow in my 60s. A few months ago I started spending time with a man I work with. We would see each other once or twice a month, strictly as friends. Our "dates" ended with a platonic hug.

About a month ago, a hug turned into an embrace. A week later, the embrace became a passionate kiss. Since then, whenev-



er we get together—now once or twice a week—we spend a good portion of our time together "making out." We love the way each other kisses.

The problem is, we're still just friends. There is no desire on the part of either of us to take the relationship up a notch. What do we do? We should not be kissing a friend the way we do, but

We're not hurting anyone. We have tried meeting only in public places, but there is still the goodnight kiss. I never thought I'd need this kind of advice at my age. Must we stop spending time together?

FLABBERGASTED IN WISCONSIN

DEAR FLABBERGASTED: Not in my opinion. I assume you're both eligible. This is the way relationships develop, and you would be foolish not to see where it leads. As of now, a kiss is still a kiss. Let me hear from you in a month.

DEAR ABBY: I am writing on behalf of hairstylists. We are busy people. Our time is money. We rarely even stop for lunch. Clients who come in talking on their cellphones are a real problem for us because they slow us down.

I have had clients jump up from my chair to answer their cellphone in the middle of a haircut—hair flying everywhere. I have had to do a haircut AROUND a cellphone, with the client switching the phone from ear to ear! These are not even important calls—just casual conversations.

The lack of courtesy is ridiculous, and it seems to be getting worse. I would like people who do this to think twice before subjecting their stylist to it. They should put their phones on silent, get their hair cut or colored, and talk on their own time!

FED UP IN NEBRASKA

DEAR FED UP: You are not helpless. This is happening because you have allowed it. If you can't find the gumption to tell your customers you don't want them using their cellphones while they're in your chair, then post a sign on your mirror that reads "Cellphones Not Allowed."

DEAR ABBY: I am a new bride. I love my husband very much, but I've encountered a problem I don't know how to handle. My husband and I were together for six years before we got married and were engaged for three. We eloped to Las Vegas (it wasn't planned) and had a "proper" celebration with friends and family later.

My husband makes comments that suggest I dragged him and tricked him into marrying me. I know he's only kidding, but it's very hurtful. I don't know how to let him know his comments really hurt my feelings. It makes me feel like he's ashamed of our marriage.

NEWLYWED IN CALIFORNIA

DEAR NEWLYWED: The squeaky wheel gets the grease. The next time your husband does it, speak up. Explain that his attempts at humor are hurtful, not to mention insulting. Ask him if he regrets marrying you. (If the answer is yes, it's important that you know it NOW.) Clear communication is the key to a strong marriage, and so is respect for one's partner, which he appears to be lacking.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

For everything you need to know about wedding planning, order "How to Have a Lovely Wedding." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Wedding Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

riage was over. Kutcher didn't

ENTERTAINMENT TIDBITS PSY to unveil 'Gangnam Style' follow-up next month

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)— South Korean rapper PSY says he'll unveil his much-awaited follow-up to "Gangnam Style" next month and celebrate it with a huge concert in Seoul. PSY made the announcement Friday on YouTube, where his "Gangnam Style" video has a record 1.39 billion views. PSY said he'll release the new single on April 13 and hold a concert at a soccer stadium that evening. He's dubbed the concert "Happening" and says it will be broadcast live on YouTube. The rapper, whose real name is Park Jae-sang, has been on a worldwide tour since his viral video made a global splash in July, with its catchy tune and much-imitated horseriding dance. He recently released a "Gangnam Style" remix and performed at the inauguration ceremony for South Korea's new president.

Kelly Osbourne recovering after fainting on E! set

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Kelly Osbourne has been hospitalized after fainting on the set of the E!'s "Fashion Police." A spokeswoman for Osbourne told the cable network Thursday that the 28-year-old TV personality is awake, alert and in stable condition. She will be staying at the hospital overnight for observation as a precautionary measure. No additional details were provided. Osbourne is the daughter of rocker Ozzy Osbourne and "The Talk" co-host Sharon Osbourne. She was profiled with her family on the MTV reality series "The Osbournes" and has appeared as a contestant on "Dancing with the Stars." She's a panelist on "Fashion Police" with Joan Rivers, Giuliana Rancic and George Kotsiopoulos. Kelly Osbourne's brother, Jack, revealed he was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis last year.

Joy Behar leaving 'The View'

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Joy Behar will be enjoying "The View" for only five more months. The 70-year-old comedian is leaving the ABC daytime talk show at the end of the current season in August. The network said in a statement Thursday that this next chapter, and are thrilled that we have her for the remainder of the season." Behar has cohosted the show for 16 seasons. She was among the first co-hosts with co-creator Barbara Walters when the series debuted in 2006. The current panel includes Whoopi Goldberg, Elisabeth Hasselbeck and Sherri Shepherd. In addition to "The View," Behar hosted "The Joy Behar Show" on HLN from 2009 to 2011 and currently hosts "Joy Behar: Say Anything!" on Current TV, which debuted last year.

River Phoenix's last

film to premiere in US MIAMI (AP)—River Phoenix's last film is making its U.S. premiere at the Miami International Film Festival, 20 years after the young actor's death. "Dark Blood," which also stars Jonathan Pryce and Judy Davis. premiered Wednesday. It's uncertain whether the film will go to a general release as negotiations are ongoing with the company that owns the movie. The film footage sat untouched for decades until an insurance company nearly burned it. Director George Sluizer had it wishes Behar "all the best in it moved to the Netherlands,

where it sat for another decade. He decided to finish the movie and narrated missing scenes himself. Phoenix was 23 when he died in Los Angeles. The cause was heart failure after overdosing on heroin and cocaine.

Polish police arrest man in philharmonic killings WARSAW, Poland (AP)—A

Polish official says a suspect has been arrested in the killing of a young female harpist and a security guard in the building of a philharmonic in western Poland. The two were found dead Friday morning in separate areas of the building of the Lower Silesia Philharmonic in Jelenia Gora. Violetta Niziolek, spokeswoman for prosecutors, said a suspect was arrested later in the day on Friday and would be questioned Saturday afternoon. Authorities have described the victims as a 60-year-old male security guard and a young harpist in her late 20s who had traveled from Warsaw to Jelenia Gora to perform in a concert. Ryszard Zimak, president of the Fryderyk Chopin University of Music in Warsaw, described her as a "very promising harpist" who had performed across the world.

SAIPAN TRIBUNE MONDAY, MARCH 11, 2013 **21**

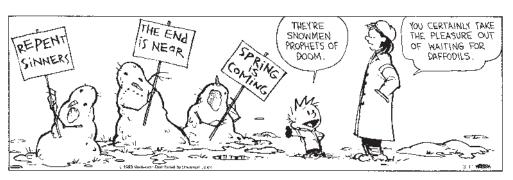
Pastimes

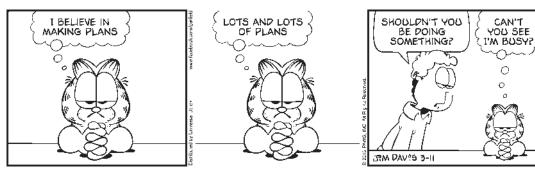
Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

Garfield®

By Jim Davis





Adam@home

OUR TOWN DOESN'T HAVE RECYCLING

WHY DON'T WE RECYCLE.

SOMETHING ABOUT BUDGET SHORTFALLS, WHY Not?

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The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy IJW GELL!NE OH, SORRY.







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STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch tone/rotary phones. (18- only.) A King

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Anton Yelchin, 24; Thora Birch, 31; Johnny Knoxville, 42; Terrence Howard, 44.

By Bryan Basset

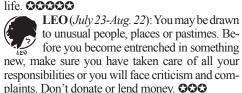
Happy Birthday: You'll experience success if you are a diligent perfectionist. Your creative imagination will help you entertain the people you want to enlist to help you reach whatever destination you strive to achieve. Discipline and hard work will come naturally: however, so will excess. Keep moderation in the back of your mind and victory will be yours. Your numbers are 3, 10, 16, 21, 23, 30, 42.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Refrain from sharing personal information. Someone is waiting to make you look bad. Protect your reputation and make a point of taking care of any responsibilities you are given swiftly and without complaint. Your positive attitude will keep you in the game. •••

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Offer to help and you will raise your profile. Your concern and dedication will lead to suggested positions that are likely to increase your income or your clout. Love is in the stars, and a partnership will gain momentum.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Stay in the background keeping a watchful eye on what everyone around you does. Knowing the precise moment to make your move will make the difference between success and failure. Keep a low profile until you are ready to strike. ••

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Take action and you will make a lasting impression. Your unique way of handling people will qualify you for a higher position that warrants more responsibility and perks. Romance is in the stars. Celebrating will enhance your love



VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Bounce your ideas off someone you admire and respect. The feedback you get will give you exactly what you need to forge ahead and reach your destination. An emotional journey will prove to be beneficial. Love and romance are in the stars.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Only take on what you know you can de what you know you can do well. It's best to protect your reputation from someone waiting for a chance to make you look bad. Dedication, loyalty, perseverance and fair play will bring the results you want.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Networking events will lead to a chance meeting with someone from your past. Offer suggestions and you will end up being part of a creative group that will enhance your goals personally or professionally. Love is on the rise. **QQQQQ**

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Insincere gestures of friendliness are apparent. Do your homework and find out whom you are dealing with before you share personal or professional information. Protect what you have worked hard to achieve. Don't fall for an empty promise. 🛇

EUGENIA

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Take everything you know and the experience you have and apply it to a job you are given. Draw help from past partners, peers and colleagues who understand your dedication. Advancement is heading your way and romance is in the picture.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Speak up. follow through and do your own thing. You can make a difference if you take the initiative. Good fortune will find you if you explore a wider range of avenues to present and promote what you have to offer. •••

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Exaggeration will be your downfall. Stick to the truth and concentrate on what really matters. Instead of trying to make an impression, do what you feel helps a cause you believe in. Make a commitment from the heart.

Birthday Baby: You are an imaginative, intuitive dreamer. You are sensitive and forgiving.

Eugenia's website—eugenialast.com, Eugenia's android app @ http://bit.ly/exhoro and join Eugenia on twitter/facebook/linkedin.

ear in the puzzle — horizon-hem and CIRCLE THEIR

Solution: 6 letter:

WONDERWORD

CURLING TRONS

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below

ally, vertically, diagonally, even dackward, find them and C LETTERS ONLY, DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD, The

SSMCSPRINGSHAPE

TTIEAROUNDPOWER

Y A R R T C R | M P | N G S O

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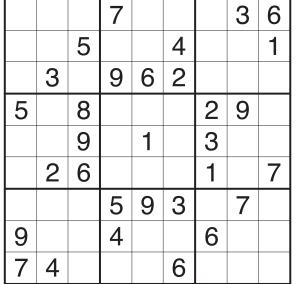
SPIRGDEHCHANGES

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Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

3/11



Difficulty Level ★

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Last Friday's SUDOKU Answer								
4	5	3	1	7	9	8	2	6
9	6	1	4	8	2	7	5	3
7	8	2	5	6	3	4	9	1
3	1	8	2	9	6	5	7	4
6	7	5	8	1	4	9	3	2
2	9	4	7	3	5	1	6	8
8	2	7	6	5	1	3	4	9
1	4	9	3	2	7	6	8	5
5	3	6	9	4	8	2	1	7
Difficulty Level + + + + 3/08								

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9	6	1	4	8	2	7	5	3
7	8	2	5	6	3	4	9	1
3	1	8	2	9	6	5	7	4
6	7	5	8	1	4	9	3	2
2	9	4	7	3	5	1	6	8
8	2	7	6	5	1	3	4	9
1	4	9	3	2	7	6	8	5
5	3	6	9	4	8	2	1	7
Difficul	lty Lev	el **	**					3/08

Around. Brushes, Burn. Ceramic, Changes, Cone, Cooling, Create. Crimping, Curling, Cuts. Ends. Flat. Flip, Glove, Grips. Hair, Handle, Heat. Hold, Inch. Inon, Layers, Like, Lock, Metal, Mirror, Power, Release. Ridges. Ringlets, Rollers, Sawtooth, Seconds, Section, Shape, Shiny, Size, Smooth, Spiral, Spray. Spring, Stand, Straightening, Styling, Twine, Wide, Wraps Last Friday's Answer: Sponge

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22 MONDAY, MARCH 11, 2013 SAIPAN TRIBUNE

CLASSIFIED AD

→大戶本作□計計下作向す劉剛及囚事でおればしまる。 大戸 大戸本作□計計画大道 国本のおれば自己 大戸 日本のおればれる 大戸 11 日本のおれば 11 日本のおれば 11 日本のまたには、11 日本のようには、11 日本のようには、1

WHATZIT Solution: Pussyfoot around

CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES

Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

CLASSIFIED LINER ADS

 ${\it Saipan Tribune} \ {\it also} \ {\it offers a Super Saver Package} -- {\it a complete}$ 5-day run in both print and online editions, for as low as \$30 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

(PRINT) (PRINT AND ONL	INE)
• 3-Liner \$15 \$30	
• 5-Liner \$24 \$45	

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Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

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Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the Saipan Tribune are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.



Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.



Tropical Leisure Sports, Inc. P.O. Box 500157 CK, Saipan, MP 96950

Tel. (670) 233-8574 • Fax: (670) 233-0850 Email: tlssaipan@gmail.com

Job Announcement

Position: 1 Tour Coordinator Salary: \$ 5.55/hr

Coordinate all incoming schedules, assist in customer tour participation, explain in Japanese for all forms needed to be read and signed. Contacting other tour company for scheduling and reservations and other related duties as assigned to. Fully able to read, write and speak fluent Japanese. Must have at least 2 years

Direct activities of boat services, according to knowledge of perform the job duties.

Position: 1 Operations Manager Salary: \$ 5.55/hr

Plan, direct or coordinate the operations of company, manage daily operations. Oversee activities directly related to making products or providing services. Manage staff, preparing work schedules and assigning specific duties. Coordinating with other department heads as required and other related duties as assigned to. College graduate with at least 5 years experience, preferably in managing water sports activities.

Center counter located at the beach side of Hafadai Beach Hotel not later than March 18, 2013.

EMPLOYMENT

(2) Auto (Radiator) Repairer: \$5.55/ hr. At least five years of experience required. Email resume to grace@ hanmisaipan.com.

(2) Tour Guide: \$5.55/hr, tips, commission. High school diploma and 3 years' experience required. Korean speaking and writing fluency required. Email resume to hit@ hanmisaipan.com.

(1) Maintenance and Repair Worker, General: \$5.05/hr. Email resume to mikes@hanmisaipan.com.

2-H.E. Operator \$ 5.55 - \$ 5.75/hr. Min. of 5 yrs. experience. Fax resume to 234-9796. Kimco Ent. Inc

1-H.E. Mechanic \$ 5.55 - \$ 5.75/hr. Min. of 5 yrs. exp. bldg. electrician. Fax resume to 234-7976. Kimco Ent. Inc.

4-Electrician \$ 5.55 - \$ 5.75/hr. Min. of 5 yrs. experience. Fax resume to 234-7976. Kimco Ent. Inc.

1-Plumber \$ 5.55 - \$ 5.75/hr. Min. of 5 yrs. experience. Fax resume to 234-7976. Kimco Ent. Inc.

3-Carpenters \$ 5.55 - \$ 5.75/hr. Min. of 5 yrs. experience. Fax resume to 234-7976. Kimco Ent. Inc.

Cement Supervisor \$7/hr. Must have cement handling equipment exp. Apply at Hanson Micronesia Cement.

WANTED TO BUY

Looking for used cars Year 2003 & up and Truck. Good condition. We pay cash!. Call 287-7676.

FOR RENT - RESIDENTIAL

Lower Navy Hill Apts. 3BR & 2BTH. Rooms w/ A/C & fully furnished. Back-up generator. Free Wi-Fi, EPA Solar Water Heater. Laundry area. Unit approximately 600sq.ft. Nightime security. \$450/mo. Call for an appointment 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

Fina Sisu Apt., 2-BR, 1-BTH, FF, AC, BU Genset/24-hr water, security, laundry room, free Wi-Fi & ample parking. Close to NMC campus. MIHA applicants accepted. \$450-\$550/mo. Pls. visit our website www.saipan-properties.com. Call for an appointment 235-6527/8 or 285-1317.

Fina Sisu Apt., 1-BR, 1-BTH, FF, AC, BU Genset/24-hr water, security, laundry room, free Wi-Fi & ample parking. Close to NMC campus. MIHA applicants accepted. \$250/ mo. Pls. visit our website www. saipan-properties.com. Call for an appointment 235-6527/8 or 285-1317.

Ocean View Terraces. Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apts w/private balcony & beautiful view. Rooms w/A/C & Fully Furnished. Back-up Generator. Free Wi-Fi. Laundry Area. Nightime security. \$600/mo. Pls. visit our website www.saipan-properties.com. Call for an appointment 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

Sunset View Terraces. Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apts w/private balcony & beautiful view. Rooms w/ A/C & Fully Furnished. Back-up Generator. Free Wi-Fi. Laundry Area. Nightime security. \$550. Pls. visit our website www.saipan-properties.com. Call for an appointment 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.



Office Space

in a building on Capital Hill is available for rent. If interested contact 285-3282. Serious inquires only.

command of English is seeking a full-time office job or opportunities as an -

English Chinese Translator

Below is a brief background:

- Solid experience in acct, & fin., logistics planning & scheduling, trading, and administration;
- MBA from a top 10 univ. in China + MPhil (with merit) & Lecturer from a top 10 univ. in UK:
- Prize winning team leader in Moot Corp & Rice global business plan competitions held in US;
- Hands-on PC skills

Call Wendy at 785-3228

For Qualified U.S. Citizens

Duties and Qualification Requirement:

experience in tour related activities.

Position: 1 Manager, Marine Service Salary: \$ 5.55/hr **Duties and Qualification Requirement:**

maintenance need of small craft and marine safety requirements. Confers with owner or crew of vessel to obtain maintenance history and details concerning condition of craft. Observes and listen to vessel in operation to detect unsafe or malfunctioning equipment and leaks or other flaws in hull and superstructure. Must be able to repair/overhaul boat engine (gasoline or diesel) and other related duties as assigned. Employer Preference: College graduate with atleast 5 years experience and must be able to

Duties and Qualification Requirement:

Interested applicants may submit their resume to the Marine Sports

PACIFIC ISLANDS

is inviting qualified US workers to apply for the following positions:

(1) ASSISTANT FRONT OFFICE MANAGER

Assists with the Front Office operations, including a Call Center, Concierge, Tour Desk and Guest Service operations; Must have the ability to train employees to ensure standards of the hotel are met. Minimum of five (5) years of hotel/hospitality is required. Minimum of two (2) years of previous experience managing the Front Office of a hotel is required, Excellent written and oral communication skills are necessary. Must be able to solve guest complaints and work in a high-pressured environment. Must be able to speak and understand one or more of the following languages: Korean, Japanese or Russian; Must be able to work graveyard shifts/weekends/holidays

(3) CHEF DE PARTIE

Minimum three (3) years experience as a cook in a hotel; supervisory experience preferred; Must be able to work evenings/weekends/holidays

(2) ELECTRICIAN

(15) COOK

Minimum five (5) years related work experience; Must be able to work evenings/weekends/holidays

Minimum one (1) year related work experience; Must be able to work evenings/weekends/holidays

(2) FRONT DESK CLERK

Minimum one (1) year work experience, preferably in hospitality; Previous cashiering experience required; Must be able to work graveyard shifts/weekends/holidays; fluency in Korean, Russian and/or Japanese languages preferred.

(1) FRONT DESK SUPERVISOR

Minimum two (2) years previous Front Desk supervisory experience is required; Ability to solve guest related concerns and lead a team. Prefer language ability: Korean, Japanese or Russian; Must be able to work graveyard shifts/weekends/holidays

(2) GENERAL MAINTENANCE

Minimum 3 years related work experience, preferably in a large hotel; Must be able to work evenings/weekends/holidays

(5) LEAD COOK

Minimum three years experience as a cook; at least one (1) year supervisory experience preferred; Must be able to work evenings/weekends/holidays

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Woods stretches his lead on Blue Monster



(AP)—With one last birdie putt that never looked like

it was going anywhere but in the hole, Tiger Woods walked off the Blue Monster in a familiar position.

He had a four-shot lead over Graeme McDowell in the Cadillac Championship, the 17th time on the PGA Tour that he has led by at least four shots going into the final round. Woods

win his 17th WGC title, and his first since 2009.

"He controlled every part of his game very well, very few loose shots," said McDowell, who did well to two-putt for par from 85 feet on the last hole for a 69 that at least kept him in final group for Sunday.

You know, 17 was a really bad break for him. But in true Tiger fashion that we've become very accustomed to over the years, to come back and birdie the last, he was fantastic

have to play too much different," Mickelson said. "I just can't afford to give away those shots. I'm going to have to play a round like I played at Pebble last year, something in the low 60s."

A year ago, Mickelson shot 64 in the final round to win at Pebble Beach while playing in the same group with Woods.

Rory McIlroy, the world's No. 1 player, had a rough start until rallying on the back nine with five birdies in a six-hole

10-foot birdie attempt on the seventh for the outright lead. The stroke was tentative, and the ball dipped on the low side.

And that was as close as Mc-Dowell could get.

Woods had a one-shot lead as they walked toward the green on the par-5 10th hole, with Mc-Dowell on the green in two and poised to catch him again.

It all turned so suddenly.

Woods hit another superb wedge to 6 feet for birdie, while McDowell's eagle attempt slid

> 4 feet by the cup, and he missed it coming back for par. McDowell was furious, slapping his leg in disgust. McDowell and Woods each had 6 feet for par on the 11th— Woods made, Mc-Dowell missed, his first bogey of the week.

That gave Woods a three-shot lead, and McDowell fell even further behind when he muffed a pitch behind the 14th green and took double bogey, and Woods hit a towering tee shot on the par-3 15th to 6 feet for birdie.

"The three-putt on 10 kind of rattled me a little bit, because Tiger

didn't look like he was going to do anything wrong," McDowell said. "I really felt like I needed to be making putts like that."

McDowell at least stayed in the game, but after his putt across the length of the 18th green stopped inside a foot from the hole, he could only watch as Woods poured in another putt for yet another birdie, making the task on Sunday even more difficult

The leaderboard still had the best golfers. Woods, however, separated himself from them.

Honda Classic winner Michael Thompson and Sergio Garcia each had a 67 and were at 11-under 205, along with Charl Schwartzel (69) and Keegan Bradley (69). Masters champion Bubba Watson could only manage a 71 and was eight shots behind.

Woods will be going for his second win of the year, an ominous sign with the Masters a month away. Woods has not won twice before the Masters in five years.

"All respect to the way he handled himself today and the way he played," McDowell said. "He's going to be a tough guy to catch. But according to the forecast tomorrow, we are going to have strong winds. I think that's an advantage to the rest of the field. ... With tough conditions tomorrow, hopefully we'll have a chance."



Tiger Woods hits from the third tee during the third round of the Cadillac Championship golf tournament Saturday, March 9, 2013, in Doral, Fla.

has never lost when leading by that much on tour.

Saturday at Doral was a reminder, however, how quickly it all can change.

Woods knocked in a short birdie putt on the 15th hole to put six shots between him and McDowell.

Two holes later, after Mc-Dowell chipped in for eagle and Woods found himself staring some 20 feet in the air at his golf ball lodged in a palm tree to the right of the 17th fairway, the lead was cut in half.

Woods saved his best for the

He drilled a tee shot into the fairway, hit 9-iron to 15 feet and made his 24th birdie of the tournament for a 5-under 67, putting him on the cusp of another World Golf Championship and a big step toward returning to No. 1 in the world.

"After I made birdie on 15, I was looking pretty good with a six-shot lead, and with a drivable par 4," Woods said. "Two holes later, it's now cut down to three. I piped a tee shot down there, hit a little 9-iron there and was able to pour that putt in there."

The ball never came down from the tree, which was about the only thing that didn't fall his way.

The 24 birdies and 74 putts are personal records for

Woods. More importantly, it

put him in great position to

today," he said.

"So maximum respect there. He's going to be a tough man to catch tomorrow. I get to watch it and get to see him, and hopefully get a chance to get close to him tomorrow."

Woods has a 39-2 record when he has the outright lead going into the final round on the PGA Tour. The only time he has ever lost a lead of more than two shots in any tournament around the world was in 2010 against an 18-man field at the Chevron World Challenge, when Mc-Dowell beat him in a playoff.

McDowell certainly was up for the fight on a breezy, sunny afternoon near Miami. Despite a shaky stretch of holes that appeared to end his chances, he drove just over the green on the par-4 16th and chipped in for eagle, and hit that putt across the 18th green that amazed even Woods.

"He hit a hell of a putt," Woods said.

Woods was at 18-under 198.

Phil Mickelson, who badly wanted to get into the final group, overcame a three-putt from 4 feet for double bogey on the third hole by making four birdies the rest of the way. He had a 69, along with Steve Stricker, and both were five shots behind.

"I threw away five or six shots on the greens and around the greens, and I feel like I don't

stretch that carried him to a 71. He was 15 shots behind.

Woods used to own these WGC events, winning 16 of the first 30 that he played. He has gone 0-for-10 since Firestone in August 2009, though the odds were stacked in his favor at the Cadillac Championship. He already is a three-time winner at Doral, and he has been putting well ever since Stricker gave him a tip on the eve of the tournament.

You know what kind of closer he is," Stricker said. "When he gets the lead in a golf tournament, it's tough. He doesn't let too many guys in usually when he gets the lead. We've all got our work cut out for us. We're going to have to go out and try to make birdies on a difficult golf course, which is hard to do."

It's even tougher with Woods playing like this. He has matched the low round of the tournament all three days.

For nine holes, McDowell threw his best golf at Woods, and Woods counterpunched in a magnificent display on the breezy Blue Monster.

McDowell opened with a 20foot eagle, Woods with back-toback birdies. McDowell hit his approach to 10 feet on the third hole, and Woods followed with a shot 6 inches inside as both made birdie.

McDowell finally tied him for the lead with a 20-foot putt on the sixth hole, and he had a

Knicks rout Jazz without Anthony and Stoudemire

NEW YORK (AP)— J.R. Smith scored 24 points and the New York Knicks shook off the absence of Carmelo Anthony and the shock of Amare Stoudemire needing more knee surgery to rout the slumping Utah Jazz 113-84 on Saturday night.

The Knicks learned earlier Saturday that Stoudemire will have right knee surgery that will sideline him approximately six weeks. But they still have plenty of scoring off the bench, with Steve Novak adding a seasonhigh 20 points.

Alec Burks scored 14 points and Gordon Hayward had 13 for the Jazz, who completed a 0-4 road trip that dropped them into a tie with the Los Angeles Lakers for the eighth and final playoff spot in the Western Conference

Utah played without starting forward Paul Millsap because of right knee inflammation.

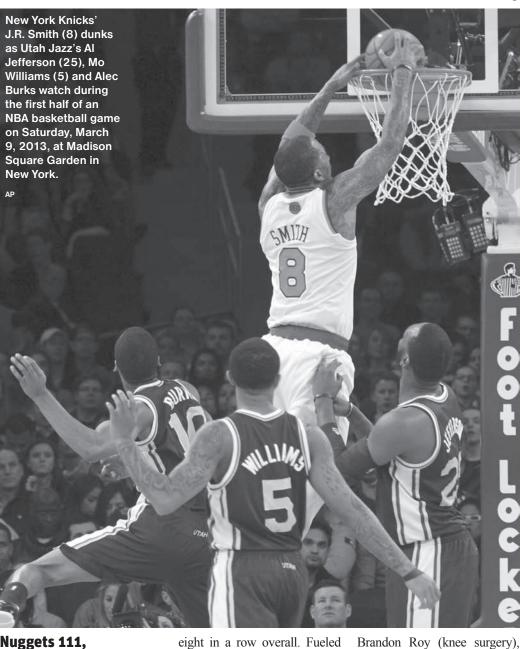
Nets 93, Hawks 80

In Atlanta, Brook Lopez and Andray Blatche each scored 18 points, Deron Williams added 17 and Brooklyn won its third straight game by beating At-

Al Horford finished with 15 points and 12 rebounds for the Hawks, who seemed lethargic after losing in overtime at Boston on Friday. Atlanta has lost two straight and five of six.

Brooklyn had a better performance coming off its 17-point home victory over Washington on Friday in which Williams set the NBA record with nine 3-pointers in a half and scored a season-high 42 points.

Lopez, who finished with nine rebounds, scored 14 points in the third, including a runner that gave Brooklyn its first 20-point lead.



Nuggets 111, **Timberwolves 88**

In Denver, Ty Lawson matched his season high with 32 points, including 14 in the fourth quarter, and Denver beat injury-depleted Minnesota to stretch its home winning streak to 13 games, its longest in 14 years.

Corey Brewer had 15 points, while Danilo Gallinari and Andre Iguodala added 11 apiece Love (broken hand), Andrei for the Nuggets, who have won

eight in a row overall. Fueled by their longest home winning streak since a 19-game run from Jan. 28-April 20, 1989, the Nuggets ran their home record to 28-3, tying the Miami Heat for best in the league.

Mickael Gelabale scored 19 points for the Timberwolves, who were without Nikola Pekovic (abdominal strain), Kevin Kirilenko (strained left calf), Chase Budinger (knee) and Malcom Lee (knee).

J.J. Barea added 15 points for Minnesota, which lost for the seventh time in eight games.

Grizzlies 96, **Hornets 85**

In Memphis, Tenn., Mike Conley scored 22 points, seven Memphis players finished in double figures and the Grizzlies

Stoudemire having knee surgery, could miss 6 weeks

NEW YORK (AP)—Amare Stoudemire needs surgery on his right knee and is expected to miss six weeks, a stunning blow to the New York Knicks as they chase the Atlantic Division title.

Stoudemire, who had been playing well off the bench, will have the procedure to remove tissue within the week, the Knicks said Saturday before their game against the Utah Jazz.

Stoudemire missed the first 30 games after having the same surgery, called a debridement, on his left knee during the preseason. He returned on New Year's Day and has averaged 14.2 points in 29 games as a reserve.

"I feel for the young man because he put so much time and hard work in, but we've got to go on," Knicks coach Mike Woodson said.

The Knicks were also without Carmelo Anthony, sitting out his third straight game with a sore and stiff right knee.

But the Stoudemire news was

a surprise, since there was no indication there had been any problem with his surgically repaired knees until Saturday morning.

Stoudemire didn't take part in the Knicks' morning shootaround, and had an MRI later in the day.

Leading the Brooklyn Nets by 2 1/2 games entering play Saturday, the Knicks have to hope Stoudemire can return for the playoffs.

"It's a loss, a major loss, to what we're trying to do, but you know we're going to have to wait on him and continue our climb," Woodson said. "We can't sit and sulk and feel sad and upset about it. It's what it is and guys have got to step up and play."

Stoudemire has a history of knee injuries that made the \$100 million contract he signed in 2010 uninsurable. The Knicks were being especially careful since his latest surgery, keeping him on a minutes restriction that started

in the low 20s and had recently grown to 30 minutes a night.

And once Anthony was hurt, the Knicks had no choice but to use Stoudemire right toand even over—that limit. He played 32 minutes Monday in Cleveland, the game in which Anthony was injured, and went 31 minutes two nights later in a victory over Detroit, tying his season high with 22 points in each game.

He scored 16 points Thursday in a loss to Oklahoma City, playing 29 minutes and even throwing down an impressive dunk over Thunder defensive star Serge Ibaka. So even the Knicks were surprised to learn they would be without him again.

"Not what we expected to hear, that's for sure," forward Steve Novak said. "It was like he was out there getting buckets, dunking on guys a day ago, and he's hurt, so I feel bad for him. I think that the way he was playing, his confidence was high, and you just don't want to see him get hurt again."

Though his main injury last season was his back. Stoudemire has battled knee injuries throughout his career. The Knicks originally said he would be out two to three weeks with a ruptured cyst in his left knee during the preseason, but that became a lengthy absence for surgery.

The Knicks already lost another reserve forward, Rasheed Wallace, likely for the remainder of the regular season because of foot surgery. Marcus Camby has been injury-prone, so Stoudemire's injury could open additional time for Kenyon Martin, who just signed with the Knicks last month after sitting out all season.

They are calling Anthony day to day. He received more treatment Saturday and it is unclear if he will play on their upcoming road trip, which includes what would be his first trip back to Denver since the Nuggets traded him to the Knicks in February 2011.

won their fourth straight.

Tony Allen had 14 points, while Tayshaun Prince and Quincy Pondexter scored 13 points apiece. Ed Davis had 12 points, nine rebounds and matched his career best with five blocks as Memphis won its 12th game in the last 13.

Jerryd Bayless and Marc Gasol scored 10 points apiece, although Gasol missed all four of his shots in the second half.

Anthony Davis led the Hornets with 20 points and 18 rebounds, while Ryan Anderson scored 17 points. Greivis Vasquez added 12 points and eight assists, and Eric Gordon had 11 points.

The Hornets lost their third straight and have dropped five of six.

Bucks 103, Warriors 93

In Oakland, Calif., Brandon Jennings had 31 points and 10 assists, Monta Ellis scored 26 points against his former team and Milwaukee pulled away late to beat Golden State.

Ellis added five assists and five rebounds, and J.J. Redick finished with 15 points and seven assists while hitting some big shots in the fourth quarter to carry the Bucks to their fifth win in six games. In a matchup of teams transformed by a trade last season, Milwaukee has owned the matchup.

The Bucks are 3-0 against the Warriors since sending center Andrew Bogut to the Bay Area

Ellis shot 10 of 19 from the field and Jennings was 10 of 16, including 6 of 11 from beyond the arc. Bogut had four ards' comfortable lead.

points, four assists and nine rebounds in 29 minutes in his first game against the Bucks since the trade.

Suns 107, Rockets 105

In Phoenix, Goran Dragic scored 13 of his 18 points and delivered a key hustle play in the fourth quarter to help Phoenix beat Houston.

The Suns overcame 38 points from Rockets star James Harden. Phoenix, far out of playoff contention, has three straight wins over the postseason-hopeful Rockets and is 10-3 in the last 13 meetings.

Jared Dudley led the Suns with 22 points. The Rockets got 21 points off the bench from Carlos Delfino.

Wizards 104, **Bobcats 87**

In Washington, Trevor Ariza scored a season-high 26 points as Washington never trailed, shot 50 percent and handed league-worst Charlotte its 10th straight loss.

Martell Webster finished with 20 points, and Nene had 19. John Wall added 13 points and six assists for Washington, and A.J. Price contributed six assists. Ariza and Emeka Okafor each had 10 rebounds as Washington controlled the boards 45-32.

Kemba Walker scored 29 points for the Bobcats, who were done in by their 5-for-17 shooting from the field in the second quarter. Charlotte did manage to cut a 22-point deficit in the third quarter down to nine early in the fourth, but Ariza made a pair of 3-pointers to restore the Wiz-

Stern says Sacramento bid to keep Kings 'not quite there'

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP)— NBA Commissioner David Stern said Friday night that the counteroffer to keep the Sacramento Kings from moving to Seattle needs to be increased financially before the league's owners would even consider the bid.

Speaking to reporters before the Golden State Warriors hosted the Houston Rockets, Stern said the Sacramento group's offer has some "very strong financial people behind it but it is not quite there in terms of a comparison to the Seattle bid. He added that "unless it increases, it doesn't get to the state of consideration."

The league has scheduled a meeting April 3 in New York to avoid rushing debate on the issue. Representatives from Sacramento and Seattle will have a chance to present their case at that meeting, Stern said.

The NBA Board of Governors will convene April 18, when a vote is expected to take place on the sale and relocation of the Kings franchise. A sale of a franchise requires a three-fourths majority approval of owners, while relocation requires just a simple majority.

Stern said he is still hopeful that the Sacramento bid, led by 24 Hour Fitness founder Mark Mastrov and billionaire grocery tycoon Ron Burkle, will be comparable to the Seattle offer by the time owners have to make a decision.

"I think right now it is fair to say that the offers are not comparable," Stern said.

Mastrov, among the final bidders for the Warriors before Joe Lacob and Peter Guber bought the team for an NBA-record \$450 million in 2010, is hoping to become the majority owner of the Kings. Burkle, co-owner of the NHL's Pittsburgh Penguins, is leading the effort to build a new downtown Sacramento arena that he hopes will also lure back a WNBA franchise.

Mastrov was sitting courtside at the Rockets-Warriors game and said he wasn't surprised by Stern's comments. He said his group is still negotiating final terms with Sacramento and the NBA on a bid.

"It's all part of the process," said Mastrov, who will attend both meetings in New York.

Fierce brawl mars Canada's 10-3 win over Mexico



PHOENIX (AP)— A little bunt single turned this WBC matchup into a World Boxing Classic.

Alfredo Aceves and several players threw nasty punches when a fierce, full-scale brawl broke out in the ninth inning Saturday of Canada's 10-3 romp over Mexico in the World Baseball Classic, a melee that also involved fans and set off skirmishes in the seats.

"Whoever says that we're just here as an extra spring training game or we're just here to say we represented our country and then go home obviously didn't see how intense that game was and what it means to everybody that was involved," Canadian slugger Justin Morneau said.

Multiple fights erupted after Canada's Rene Tosoni was hit in the back by a pitch from Arnold Leon with the score 9-3 at Chase Field, home of the Arizona Diamondbacks. It quickly turned into a wild scene, as chaotic as any on a major league field in recent years.

Even when the fisticuffs ended, Canadian pitching coach Denis Boucher was hit in the face by a full water bottle thrown from the crowd. Canada shortstop Cale Iorg angrily threw the bottle back into the crowd.

Several police officers came onto the field trying to restore order, and there were a few skirmishes in the decidedly pro-Mexico crowd of 19,581. Seven players were ejected after umpires huddled, trying to sort out the frenzy.

Canadian first base coach Larry Walker, a former NL MVP, said he held back Mexico star Adrian Gonzalez during the altercation. The solidly built Walker also tried to restrain Aceves.

"I had a hold of him and I thought I saw Satan in his eyes," Walker said.

There had already been several borderline plays on the bases when things got out of hand. A bunt hit by Chris Robinson heightened the tension - a WBC tiebreaker relies heavily on runs and the Canadians wanted to score again in the ninth. Third baseman Luis Cruz fielded Robinson's bunt and seemed to tell Leon to hit the next batter.

Managers from both teams blamed the tiebreaking rule that uses run differential to determine what team moves on to the next round.

"It was just simply a misunderstanding," Mexico manager Rick Renteria said. "In a normal setting, a normal professional setting I should say, a 9-3 bunt in that particular fashion would be kind of out of the ordinary."

Right as the game resumed, someone in the crowd hurled a baseball that almost hit Walker in the head.

"That's when I went out to the umpire and I said, `Another thing comes out, we're going to pull our team off the field," Canadian manager Ernie Whitt said.



game led to the blowup, Renteria said.

"I think in just in the heat of the moment you lose sight of it," he said, "and maybe that's how it occurred."

Whitt said WBC officials need to look at the tiebreaking rule.

"There's got to be another method other than the scoring runs, running up the score on the opposing team," he said. "No one likes that. That's not the way baseball's supposed to be played. There's professionalism that we're all accustomed to here in North America. And unfortunately teams are knocked out of the tournament because other teams run up the score on them. Unfortunately that's what you have to deal with when you have that type of format."

Morneau, Gonzalez and Joey Votto were among the bigname, high-priced stars playing in the game. The fight was exactly the kind of thing that must have made major league manag-

The collision of WBC rules ers and general managers cringe and the unwritten rules of the at the thought of one of their players getting hurt in such a fracas.

> "There's a point you got to stand up for yourself," said Morneau, a former MVP with the Minnesota Twins. "We got hit for playing the game, and that happens, but at the same time you got to stand up for yourself. You can't just get pushed around."

> "Obviously everyone wishes it didn't happen, but it happens in the game sometimes," he said. " I think we have all learned from being in the minor leagues that, especially in low-A ball, high-A ball, those things get real crazy. There's not as much security. It starts to get out of control pretty bad, and I think you learn from that, you learn to keep your head on a swivel."

> Aceves was among four Mexican players thrown out the angry Boston reliever was tossed to the ground by Philadelphia minor league outfielder Tyson Gillies during the height of the fury, then rushed to rejoin

"I did it see it on video. I saw it afterward. I saw the altercation, yes," Red Sox manager John Farrell said after Saturday night's exhibition game against Baltimore in Fort Myers, Fla. "I think we all hope our players don't get injured when they go off to a tournament, especially in that type of melee."

As for Aceves, "it looks like he came out of it OK, with the exception of a couple of welts on his head," Farrell said. "We had a message from their trainer that he came out of it OK despite taking a couple of left hooks to the head."

Also ejected were Leon, Oliver Perez and Eduardo Arredondo of Mexico and Tosoni, Pete Orr and Jay Johnson of Canada. A statement from organizers said tape of the incident would be reviewed for possible disciplinary action.

All in all, it was far from the worldwide goodwill that is supposed to accompany this competition, where players exchange team hats with opponents before the start of each game as a sign of sportsmanship.

A day earlier on the same field, Mexico posted an emotional 5-2 over the United States in a game without incident. Canada, meanwhile, absorbed an embarrassing 14-4 loss to Italy.

Mexico finished its Pool D play at 1-2. Canada is 1-1 going into a game Sunday against the United States.

Whitt said he hoped any decision on suspensions would take into account that Mexico has finished its pool play, while Canada has a big game remaining.

Canada scored four times in the first inning, and Mexico cut the lead to 4-3 with two runs in the fourth.

Karim Garcia, Edgar Gonzalez and pinch hitter Sebastian Valle started the inning with singles. Garcia tried to score from second on Valle's single and was thrown out from center field by Gillies.

Robinson, the catcher, held on to the ball in a collision with Garcia down the third-base line. Garcia never did touch the plate.

Gil Velazquez followed with an RBI double and Arrendondo's sacrifice fly cut Canada's lead to one.

Robinson's hard slide into second broke up a potential double play and allowed a run to score in a two-run seventh inning that put the Canadians ahead 7-3.

Morneau, who had four hits and drove in three runs, doubled in a run, then Michael Saunders walked and Robinson was hit in the foot by a pitch. With one out, pinch hitter Jimmy Van Ostrand grounded to second.

But Robinson took the legs out from Velazquez at shortstop to prevent the relay throw and a run scored.

"We want to play the game hard. We want to play it properly. You get an opportunity to help a team, help your teammates, by breaking up a double play or something, that's something we do," Robinson said.

All that led up to the ninth, with Mexico trailing badly and facing possible elimination despite the big win over the United States.

Robinson bunted because Canada wanted to widen the margin.

Two pitches came close to Tosoni and the next one hit him in the back. He dropped the bat and walked toward the mound.

When the players all rushed onto the field. Some just shoved, other threw wild haymakers. And just when it seemed things would calm down, more skirmishes ensued.

When the bottle was thrown from behind the Canadian dugout, one Canada player had to be restrained from going into the stands.

No player seemed to be hurt.

"I know the bodies kept moving everywhere but there was a lot more people holding people back than there was real action going on," Renteria said, "as is always the case."

As for his team, Whitt said, "You can't hurt Canadians."

Yankees closer Rivera says this is final season



TAMPA, Fla. (AP)—Mari-

ano Rivera and his family walked into the pavilion behind the third-base stands at Steinbrenner Field followed by his New York Yankees' teammates.

It was the start of the long goodbye for baseball's greatest

Dressed in a dark jersey top and pinstriped uniform pants, Rivera announced what already had leaked out in prior days: This will be his 19th and final major league season.

And the 43-year-old has a clear vision of how he wants his career to end.

"The last game I hope will be throwing the last pitch in the World Series," he said. "Winning the World Series, that would be my ambition."

Rivera said he made the decision before arriving at spring training. With the entire Yankees' team looking on-including longtime teammates Derek Jeter and Andy Pettitte—Rivera said he knew the time was right for his decision. Rivera sat a table and team officials, led by managing general partner Hal Steinbrenner and manager Joe Girardi, sat nearby.

"I have just a few bullets left," he said.

He then made his first game appearance since April 30, throwing 15 pitches during a 1-2-3 fifth inning against Atlanta. Looking like his overpowering self of old, Rivera retired Dan Uggla on a popup to second, then threw called third strikes past Juan Francisco and Chris Johnson.

"It was great to be on the

mound again," Rivera said with a big smile. Rivera jogged onto the field

from the right-field bullpen to a standing ovation as Metallica's "Enter Sandman" was played, then left the mound to another loud ovation. He called the whole day "overwhelming."

"It's wonderful," Rivera said. "I can't ask for more than that."

With a dominating cut fastball few batters have figured out, Rivera holds the career saves record with 608 and has helped the Yankees win five World Series titles. He combined with Jeter, Pettitte and Jorge Posada to form the Yankees' Core Four.

'We just have a special relationship," Pettitte said. "I don't know how to explain it. Obviously, when you spent as much time together after as many years as we've been together, you just kind of grow a little closer to one another than you would with other teammates. He's always been there for me."

Rivera briefly spent time with Pettitte and Jeter following the news conference, then headed toward the back field next to the pavilion to work out with the other pitchers.

"What almost got me was seeing the whole team there," Rivera said. "I was like, 'Wow!' It was great that Joe allowed it."

Jeter said it's great that Rivera has "come to peace with what he wants to do."

"Now he can enjoy this season," the Yankees captain said. "I think it's going to be a special year for him. I'm happy for him. He's made this decision, and it's the best one for him and his family."

Rivera missed most of last year after tearing his right knee while shagging flyballs during batting practice in early May. Rivera said he would have retired at the end of last season if he had not gotten hurt.

"I didn't want to leave like that," he said. "I felt like I wanted to give everything.

Rivera also said he wanted to give Yankees fans around the major leagues a chance to see him one more time, knowing this will be the end.

"I'm actually appreciative that we get to enjoy him for one more year," Girardi said. "I think he's prepared to go 100 percent. I think he'll have a good year. It's been a real treat for me. I was relaxed when he came into the game as a catcher, and I'm relaxed when he comes into the game as a manager, so that's probably about the highest compliment you can pay a closer."

Lizama tops Marriage Encounter golf fundraiser **ALLEN**

By WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND a gross count of 102 and took



Joe Lizama came away the winner of last Saturday's fundraiser golf tourna-

ment at the Marianas Country Club put on to support the CNMI Marriage Encounter Chapter.

Lizama bested 32 other golfers in the double-peoria event and won \$300 cash, a Magellan lunch certificate courtesy of Pacific Islands Club, and free entrance into the upcoming Worldwide Marriage Encounter couples retreat.

On what was a chipper day to be on the links last Saturday, Lizama hit the turn with an even 40 and finished the back side of the course with a 49 for a gross tally of 89 that calculated into a field-low net total of 67.4.

Next in line came newcomer Gerry Dela Cruz, one of only two women competitors. She penciled in a pair of raw 51s for

home runner-up honors with her net card of 69.6, good for \$200.

Veteran Manny Mangarero rounded out the third spot and received a cool \$100 with a solid raw card of 82. He started off with a 44 before roar-

ing down the home stretch with a 38 and ended up with a 71.2 net total.

Right on his heels came Korean young gun Seun Soo Kang, who scratched down a 35 on the front side and logged a 40 on

the back nine for a field-low gross score of 75, but was humbled with fourth place on a net sum of 71.4.

Lizama

The final top field finisher was fifth placer Jess Stole who came in with a 49 after the first nine holes before finding some headwind on the back set with a 43 for gross round of 92 that worked into a 72.8 net score; he

Kang and Stole won cellphones and umbrellas courtesy of IT&E.

Additional side winners included longest drive winner Carl Hocog and closest to the Pin winners Joey Dela Cruz

(hole No. 6) and George David (hole No. 12).

The side winners received cellphones courtesy of Docomo Pacific.

Marriage Encounter is a faith-based marriage enrichment

program supported by the local Catholic church to help improve and strengthen the relationships of committed couples.

The program is set up more like a weekend retreat than a formal therapy or counseling session and is being offered on two occasions this year at Kanoa Resort Saipan. Registration for the group's upcom-

ing retreat is open to the first 25 couples on a first come, first serve basis.

It costs \$100 to participate and will be offered from April 19 through April 21. Rhe second date is slated for some time in October.

The tournament was coordinated by J.J. Atalig with help from sponsors Kanoa Resort, MCC, PIC, IT&E, Docomo Pacific, Pacific Trading Co., Coral Ocean Point Resort Club, Laolao Bay Golf Resort, and Gold's Gym.

Special thanks also goes out to Linda Muna, Russ Quinn, all of the participating couples, and the event volunteers for helping make the inaugural event a success.

For more information about Marriage Encounter, contact 2013 Spring session coordinators John and Michelle Tagabuel at 287-3264, email mitagabuel@gmail.com, look up their blog page by name.

strikeouts and is edging Agu-

Igisaiar (10). In the Seniors, Braves Frankie Lieto (1-1) has given

on (14), Agda (13), Cedric

Camacho (10), and Franco

up four earned runs off 11 hits through 11 2/3 innings for an ERA of 2.40.

He leads Lions' Brett Halstead (0-2) who has allowed five earned runs off 13 hits through 14 1/3 innings for an ERA of 2.44. Statistics were based off a minimum of nine innings.

Lieto's 17 strikeouts is shining over Ol'Aces' Terson Eina (11), Lions' Dayvin Ada (10). Fielders' Khobby Kaipat (10), and Jeremy Lizama (10).

In the Big League, Braves Peter Lieto is the only pitcher with at least six innings on the mound with a perfect 0.00 ERA. He has given up three hits through six innings.

Next comes Atalig (1.40 ERA), Jared Sablan (3.50), and Brian Camacho (4.57).

Brian Camacho's 12 strikeouts leads Fielders' Leroy Regis (8), Padres' Carl Camacho (7), Rudolfo Roppel (7), Sechardmidal (6), Lieto (6), and Enforcers' Tyler Kaipat (6).

Treacherous race condition

last year," Slack said.

From Page 28

cher (3:16:49).

also made this win more special

is Jacqui's victory, too in the

women's division," Allen said.

at the American Memorial Park

at the 3:06:00 mark, more than

six minutes ahead of runner-

up Carina Wasle (3:13:30) and

over 10 minutes faster than Bu-

"I was a bit disappointed when

I lost last year, so it felt great to

win XTERRA Saipan on my

second year. It is also nice to

celebrate with Ben, as we really

wanted to win together since we

topped XTERRA New Zealand

Slack made it to the finish line

Both Allen and Slack got off to a good start, despite the strong current in the waters off Micro Beach.

Allen was first out of the water with his 20:33 (28:32 included the time in the swim-bike transition), while Slack was sixth overall, but first in the women's division with her 22:54 (31:34 including transition time).

"The water was a bit rough with the strong current, but I felt stronger after the swim leg," Slack said.

Slack and company needed all the strength they could get after the two-lap swim at Micro Beach, as heavy rains poured just when the pro group headed up to Navy Hill for the bike trails.

"The course was treacherous, it was slipper and muddy. I fell a couple of times, but I quickly hopped into my bike again and refocused," said Allen, who crashed on the Navy Hill trails and downhill at Mt. Tapochao, sustaining scratches on his legs and arms.

Hugo, who was just two seconds behind Allen after the swim leg with his 22:35, faced about a two-minute deficit when he reached the bike-run transition as he had to walk his bike on the trails.

"I had problems with my tires because of the slippery course. I had to go down my bike and walk several times. It was very frustrating. With the tough course condition, I have to be very careful not to have a bad fall, as the season has just started," said Hugo, who completed the bike leg in 1:26:41.

The heavy rains continued to pour almost the entire time the pros were negotiating the dangerous bike course, forcing even Sam Gardner and Marceau, who had been to the route several times, to struggle.

"I tried very hard to have a faster time in the bike leg, but I just couldn't because it was so slippery," Gardner said, who had the third fastest time in the bike at 1:26:57, but dropped to fourth overall 2:52:04, when Bradley Weiss (2:50:54) caught up with him at the end of the ravine section of the run leg in Navy Hill.

Marceau, who led by almost two minutes against Gardner after the swim leg, clocking in at 22:46 against the latter's 24:41, fell to fifth overall (2:59:45) after a tough time in the bike race

(1:36:36).

With Marceau, Garner, Hugo, and Weiss trying to catch up with Allen, the Australian kept pushing himself.

"I never stopped pushing myself even though I had a good lead. You never feel confident on race day until you cross the finish line," said Allen, who still had the fastest run split time at 50:36 despite struggling in the dark World War II caves.

"I came there ahead of the volunteers, so it was too dark inside, but I managed to pass through without getting injured," the Australian pro added.

Taking a cue from her boyfriend, Slack also did not look back despite having about a sixminute lead over Bucher after the bike leg. Slack submitted 1:42:59 in the bike race against Bucher's 1:45:45.

"I am worried that Renata and Carina will catch up so I kept pushing and pushing. My technique in biking and running has improved this year so that helped me take a good lead in the race," the United Kingdom bet said.

Smiling Carina

Wasle was in tears when she crossed the finish line of last year's XTERRA Saipan after a bad crash in the bike leg.

Last Saturday, she entered the finish line loop smiling, jumping, waving, and exchanging hi-fives to the crowd after placing second in the women's division—duplicating her best finish in her debut in the Crown Jewel in 2011.

"It was a very good race for me even though it rained. I feel like I still have the energy to go out there and do the run course again," said Wasle, who had the fastest run time in the women's division and fifth overall with her 57:22.

Wasle's blistering speed in the last leg of the race allowed her to overtake Bucher, who submitted 1:03:07 in the run course.

"I caught up with Renata on the first uphill climb in Navy Hill," added the Austrian pro, who came to Saipan after not finishing XTERRA Philippines early this month due to bike problems.

Bucher did not have trouble with her bike last Saturday, but because of the tough weather condition, she had to hold back to prevent freak accidents.

"Today was just not my day. The bike leg was really tough and I don't want to risk a lot because the season has just started. It was really dangerous out there. Also, after the swim leg, I was not feeling better and then in the bike leg, I still could not get my form. Hats off to Jacqui and Carina, who did an awesome job this morning," said Bucher, who hopes to return next year and reclaim her crown.

"This is my favorite race and as long as it is possible to come back, I will do XTERRA Saipan over and over again," said Bucher, who was joined by former Saipan pro Mieko Carey (3:22:01), United Kingdom's Daz Parker (3:49:07). and Japan's Miyazaki Yasuko (3:59:24) in the Top 6.

RED SOX

From Page 28

Runs Batted In (RBI) with nine and leads Vicente Leon Guerrero (5).

The two are also members of the home run club with Aguon as all three have each left the park once.

Aguon's two triples is nosing Cedric Camacho (1), while the latter is included in the doubles race with Xclusive's Allen Cepeda, Franklin Lizama, and Ben Maratita. Ten others have one double thus far.

Franklin Lizama has plated a league-mark eight runs and leads a handful with five runs apiece. Three others are knotted at four runs apiece.

In the Senior League, Enforcers' Darion Jones and Franklin Lizama have each cracked eight hits in 13 at bats for an impressive batting average of 0.615.

They front Lions' Justin Santos (.545), Enforcers' P.J. Sablan (.500), IT&E Fielders' Ian Rogolifoi (.500), Lions' Cedric Ada (.455), Enforcers' Jose Lizama (.455), Ol'Aces' Mike Muna (.444) and Verlance

Secharmidal (.444), Braves' Alfonso Evangelista (.417), Enforcers' Fred Songao (.400), and Ol'Aces' Jeremy Lizama (.400) and Jesse Brel (.400) with three others swinging above 0.300. Statistics were based on a minimum of nine at bats.

K.J. Deleon Guerrero and Jones lead in RBIs with seven apiece ahead of Secharmidal, though the former leads with a baker's dozen in triples with two. The former also boasts the age group's lone home run.

Sablan fronts a 12-pack in doubles with two, while Alex Monkeya has crossed the plate a league-high seven times and leads Evangelista (6), Deleon Guerrero (6), Brel (6), and seven others with five apiece.

LEEP Program Enforcers' Austin Lizama has logged four hits in six at bats for a leaguehigh batting average of 0.667 atop the Big League chart.

Next comes Padres' Brian Camacho (.625), Docomo Pacific Ol'Aces' Jared Sablan (.600), Padres' A.J. Lizama (.556), Ol'Aces' Jake Flores Braves' Peter Lieto (.545),(.500), Padres' Carl Camacho (.500), Braves' Greg Iskawa

(.455), Fielders' Ricardo Dela Cruz (.429) and Rossel Hocog (.429), and Braves' Lemarc Iguel (.429) with three others swinging above 0.350. Statistics were based off at six at bats.

Carl Camacho leads in RBIs with five ahead of Ol'Aces' Jun Rabauliman (4) and Flores (4) and a band of seven with three apiece, while Dela Cruz boasts the league's lone home run.

Lieto's six runs scored is tops over Brian Camacho (5), A.J. Lizama (4), and Ol'Aces' Lancaster Secharmidal (4) and Robert Tudela (4).

Tudela and Iskawa lead the doubles race with three apiece ahead of Lieto (2) and a dozen others with one to their name.

Lieto and Lizama have each cracked two triples and lead a handful of soloists.

In Junior League pitching, Enforcers' Agda (2-0) has allowed three earned runs off 10 hits through 13 2/3 innings for a earned run average of 1.54. Red Sox's Aguon (1-0) has given up five earned runs off five hits through 9 2/3 innings for an ERA of 3.62. Statistics were based on a minimum of nine innings.

Nathan Camacho has 15

Gualo Rai 75 - Factor 18, Espinosa 17, Yap 14, Ibanez 9, Galulu 4, Capuyon 3, Cayading

Susupe 46 - Tabamo 8, Lansang 7, De Belen 6, Sevilla 4, Llagas 4, Manangan 4, Cadag 3,

Scoring by quarters: 24-9, 41-20, 60-32, 75-46.

Docomo Pacific 75 - Faisao 17. Mangali 16. Barbo 13. Sacramento 6, Montes 4, Cruz 2, Tudela 1.

Chinatown Kings 58 - Teregeyo 21, Lizama 11, Quizon 7, Acosta 6, Basa 6, Avila 3, Zapanta 2.

Scoring by quarters: 25-8, 37-34, 65-46, 75-58.

SUSUPE

From Page 28

players in the second period, turning a shaky 3-point cushion to a 39-23 halftime advantage. Susupe continued to play balanced offense in the third period to keep its comfortable lead and then hit timely baskets in the fourth to thwart LD Prime's bid.

Julius Tabamo paced Susupe with his 17 points, while Chris Esteves placed LD Prime with his 22 markers.

In the second game, Susupe ran out of gas against a fresher Gualo Rai crew to miss back-toback wins on the same night.

The Susupe-Gualo Rai tiff was also rained out and when it

resumed in the third quarter, the latter upped its 21-point halftime lead (41-20), to 28, 60-32, to secure the win early. A 24-9 start powered Gualo Rai to the easy victory, as Prince Factor sizzled for 10 points in the first period.

Factor went on to top-score for Gualo Rai with his 18 markers, while Mike Espinosa and Mike Yap chipped in 17 and 14, respectively. Notably, no Susupe player broke into double figures in their 29-point loss.

Meanwhile, in the lone Division A game, Docomo Pacific downed the Chinatown Kings, 75-68.

The make-up match was first played early January with Docomo leading 56-42, before it rained in the closing minutes of the third. Docomo picked up where it left off, finishing the period with three straight triples for a commanding 68-48 advantage.

Ichitaro Faisao led Docomo with his 17 points despite missing the resumption of the game, while Elgene Mangali added 16, including back-to-back trevs in the third-quarter breakaway.

DIVISION B First Make-Up Game

Susupe 74 – Tabamo 17, Cadag 14, Lansang 6, Llgas 6, Diyco 5, Miguel 4, Buniag 4, Sevilla 2.

LD Prime 67 – Esteves 22, K. Quemado 12, Isip 11, Lapuz 8, Jugos 5, S. Quemado 4, Ri-

Scoring by quarters: 11-8, 39-23, 63-48, 74-67.

Second Make-Up Game

3, Fedelino 3.

Miguel 2, Buniag 2.

DIVISION A

SAIPAN TRIBUNE MONDAY, MARCH 11, 2013 **27**

Weekend Sports

2013 Saipan Marathon was the biggest hit in last competiweek's tions held here.

The annual event drew more than 600 runners with Saipan's very own Mamiko Oshima-Berger leading the winners list. Berger topped the women's division of the 50K race and was joined on the champions circle by fellow female runners Noriko Jim and Terra Allen, who ruled the 10K and half marathon event.

More Saipan runners either won their age group races or made it to the Top 6 in the 10K, half marathon, marathon, and ultra marathon (50K) events,

Saipan Marathon tops list

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com REPORTER

keeping up with the visiting Japanese runners.

Saipan welcomed more visitors last week with professional athletes from the United Kingdom, Australia, France, Switzerland, and Guam coming over to compete in the 2013 XTER-RA Saipan Championship.

Other notable events held last week was the CNMI Men's National Team debut in the Asian Football Confederation 2014 Challenge Cup Oualifiers, the opening of the Women's M-League, the Marianas High School's title win in the MISO soccer league, and the selection of the CNMI Team to the 27th Summer Universiade.

The Blue Ayuyus played Nepal, Palestine, and Bangladesh in the AFC qualifier at the Dashrath Stadium in Kathmandu and although they dropped all their matches, they managed to experience how to play in a very competitive level.

Also in soccer, Independents Football Club and Shirley's Football Club started their campaign in the Women's M-League on a winning note after prevailing over Matansa FC and Paire FC, respectively. Tan Holdings FC and MP United also played in the opening week, but settled for a scoreless draw.

Still in soccer, the MHS Lady

Dolphins completed a five-feat in the MISO league after shutting out Saipan Southern High School in the 2012-2013 season finale, 5-0.

In volleyball, John Nekaifes and Clay McCullough-Stearns will don the colors of the CNMI in the 27th Summer Universiade that will be held in Kazan, Russia this year.

Summer Universiade director Marc Vandenplas, in an email sent to Northern Marianas Amateur Sports Association president Michael White last week, said the CNMI is one of the two countries in the Oceania zone selected to compete in the University Games.

Other ongoing competitions on Saipan continued last week with the NMBA holding Week 2 matches in the Sun Palace badminton tournament, the DLX/ Anchor Strong caging having its regular season matches in Divisions A and B, NMIFA pushing through with the boys U18 and girls and boys U15 matches in the youth spring league, and Saipan Little League having matches in Major, Junior, Senior, and Big League divisions.



The CNMI's Lucas Knecht (4) collides with a Nepalese player during their game in the Asian Football Confederation 2014 Challenge Cup Qualifiers last week at the Dashrath Stadium in Kathmandu.



The CNMI's Bo Barry, left, dribbles against a Nepalese player during their game in the Asian Football Confederation 2014 Challenge Cup Qualifiers last week at the Dashrath Stadium in Kathmandu.



Ketson "Jack" Kabiriel cuts the tape in last week's 2012 Saipan Mara-



A small group of Japanese runners cruises along Beach Road early morning last week during the 2013 Saipan Marathon



Daniel Siu, right, stretches to chase the shuttlecock during his and Eydie Uy's men's C doubles game against Jeff Riman and Rommel Bartolome in Week 2 of the Sun Palace badminton tournament at the TSL Sports Complex



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Pro triathletes and local bets pose for a group photo before a practice swim in the waters off Susupe last week.







28 MONDAY, MARCH 11, 2013

Allen, Slack rule XTERRA Saipan



Ben Allen, left, and Jacqui Slack, flash the No. 1 sign after topping last Saturday's 2013 XTERRA Saipan Championship

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO

roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com

en Allen and his girlfriend Jacqui Slack overcome punishing race conditions in last Saturday's 2013 XTERRA Saipan Championship and the couple went on to have a double celebration at the finish line.

JUNIOR LEAGUE

Red Sox, Enforcers tearing up batting chart

» Mixed bag in Big League

By WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND



The Junior League's Bank of Saipan Red Sox and the Se-

nior League's DARE Program Enforcers are well represented in the latest batting statistics released by Saipan Little League, while the Big League's batting chart remains wide open from a team standpoint.

The Red Sox are edging out the Junior Police Officer Program Enforcers, while the Enforcers hold a firm grip over the Docomo Pacific Ol'Aces in the Senior League.

In addition, the Junior League pitching standouts include En-



DARE Program Enforcers' Darion Jones fires home a pitch against the Rep. Lorenzo Deleon Guerrero Kagman Lions during their Senior League game last March 2 at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

forcers' Kier Agda and Red Sox's Craig Aguon. Notable Senior League hurlers include Natibu Sports Association Braves' Frankie Lieto and Rep. Lorenzo Deleon Guerrero Kagman Lions' Brett Halstead, while the Big League grouping consists of NSA Braves' Peter Lieto, IT&E Fielders' Joe Atalig, and the Paradise Island Animal Hospital Padres duo of Jared Sablan and Brian Camacho.

Red Sox's Aguon and Enforcers' Franklin Lizama co-lead the Junior League at the plate with six hits in 11 at bats for a hitting rate of 0.545.

They lead Enforcers' Cedric Camacho (.500), the Red Sox trio of Jobe Reyes (.500), Jose Tyquingco (.333), and Nathan Camacho (.300), Enforcers' Henry Lizama (.300), and Red Sox's Roque Tenorio (.273) with all other batters with at least nine or more at bats are swinging at 0.200 or below.

Cedric Camacho set the bar in See RED SOX on Page 26



Allen won the men's division in convincing fashion, while Slack claimed the women's tiara after stunning seven-time champion Renata Bucher.

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

The Australian pro completed the 1.5-kilometer swim, 3K bike, and 12K

run in 2:36:36, about five seconds slower than his 2012 time and course record of 2:31:05. But Allen had about an eight-minute lead over runner-up Dan Hugo, a big leap from the former's 39-second winning margin against four-time champion Olivier Marceau last year.

"This win was sweeter than last [year]. I came here determined to defend my title and it was great to do that with a big lead. What

See ALLEN on Page 26

Susupe keeps playoff hopes alive



Susupe's Chris Lansang, left, tries to break free from the tight defense of LD Prime's Chris Esteves during their rained-out game in the DLX/Anchor Strong caging late last month at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO



split its two make-up games last

Friday night at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court to remain in contention for a playoff spot in Division B of the 2013 DLX/ Anchor Strong Invitational Bas-

ketball League. Susupe edged LD Prime in the first make-up match, 74-67, before bowing to Gualo Rai in the second game, 46-75, to improve to a 3-5 record for seventh place in the team standings behind Adobo (7-0), Chinatown (6-3), Sexy Boys (6-3), Gualo Rai (5-4), Maplas (4-3), and ICS Shooters (3-3), and ahead of the eliminated Servitek (1-6), and LD Prime (1-7).

The Top 2 teams after the elimination will get outright semis seats, while the next four will slug it out for the two remaining Final Four slots. The last four squads will be eliminated.

The Susupe-LD Prime tiff was first played on Feb. 20, but was rained out early in the first quarter, which ended with the former slightly ahead, 11-8. Susupe then began controlling the game in the second period and built a double-digit lead before LD Prime rallied in the fourth, but fell short.

Susupe got at least 6 points apiece from three different

See SUSUPE on Page 26